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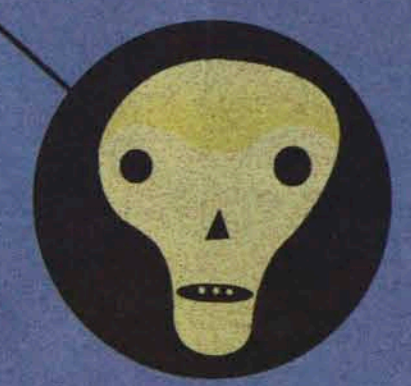
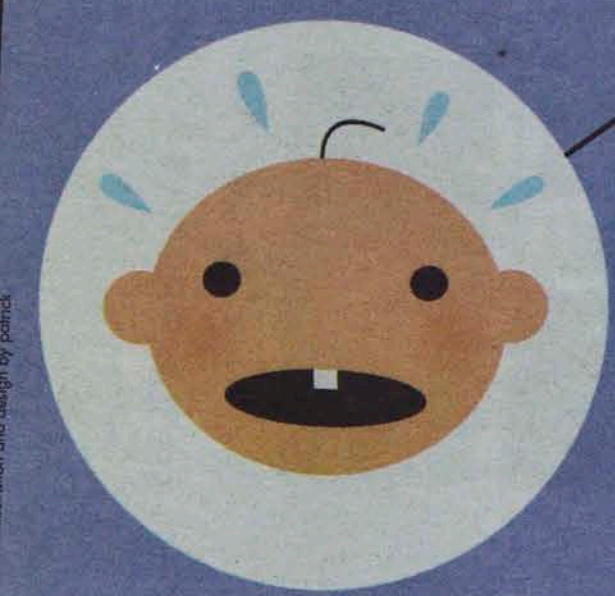
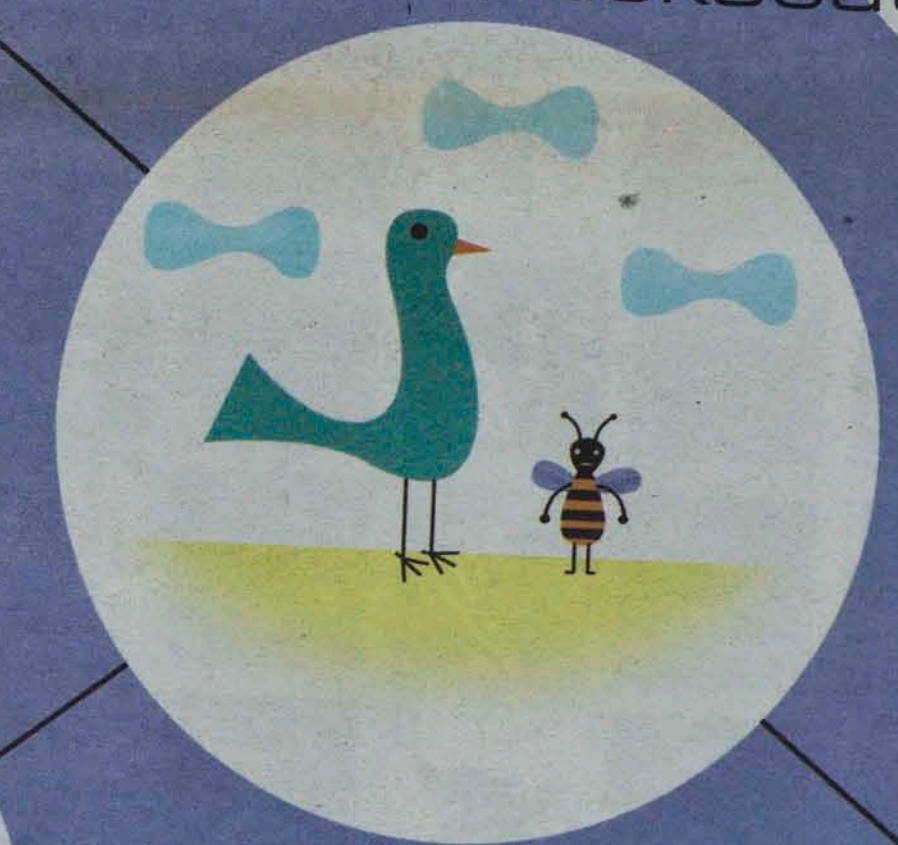
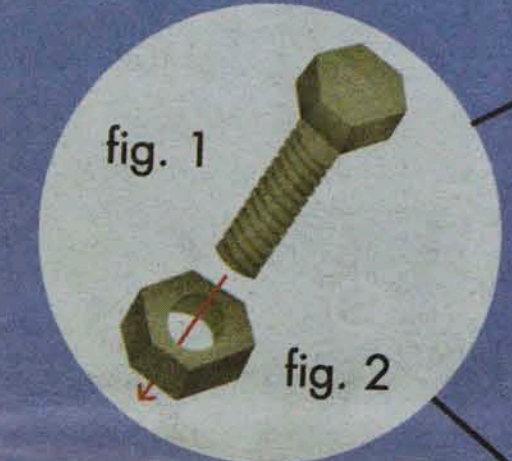
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Casco Bay Weekly
www.cascobayweekly.com

textbook sex

When it comes to **sex** education, **lust** and **pleasure** take a backseat to **politics** and **fear**

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TALK A CONVERSATION WITH ANNE HUGHES



"Sometimes, you find out too much. Things that I could never even say No, I can't say it."

Anne Hughes, 35, is an interior designer who sells couches at Youngs, a furniture store in South Portland. As a girl, she learned the trade from her mother, who had her own design business and would ask her daughter to hold the measuring tape while she calculated where furniture should be placed. Hughes describes herself as a kind of "couch therapist."

How do you help people choose a sofa?

When I ask questions to the customer, I listen. Because that's where you get all of your information. If you just keep talking, you are not going to hear what you need to hear.

I had one client that worked with numbers all day long, and the way he described his space, how he wanted it to be, he just wanted it to be very neat and very order-

ly. You know, not a lot of knickknacks. So everything could be right at hand, at arm's reach.

What clues did you have as a child that you might become an interior designer like your mom?

I would build homes, as far as, like a tree house. We built lots of snow castles and things like that. And then I would be the one that would have to go out with food coloring and paint the snow castle, because it was interesting. But everyone else just left it at — just a snow castle.

What generalizations can you make about people based on the kinds of couches they choose?

I shouldn't make any kind of blank statements that, you know, a three-cushion sofa is more of a traditional

Yankee-type person. Two-cushion sofas, I think, are more maybe not as traditionally minded. Maybe a bit more into color, things that are new.

What kind of sofa do you have?

A Louis the 15th French-styling sofa with a soft-colored velvet It was a piece that was given to me, and an Oriental rug — my great grandmother's rug, actually. Most of the pieces of furniture I have in my house are older pieces, antiques, things like that. Otherwise, I think I would be changing things so often with the new styles and new trends. Keeping the antiques is a very nice way, and they are family pieces, so they mean a lot.

Interview by Kimberly Jean Smith; photo by Thatcher Cook

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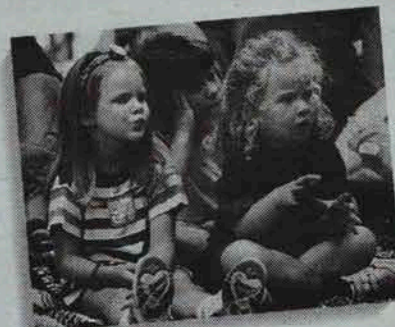
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Strangers almanac

It appears that a certain segment of our society (by which we mean everybody) has come to regard political parties with a certain attitude (by which we mean disgust). The latest evidence comes from the Maine Bureau of Taxation, which has thoughtfully compiled some statistics on how many people used the check-off on the state income tax form to make a donation to one of the parties. The answer is almost nobody (by which we mean less than four-tenths of 1 percent).

With the vast majority of tax returns already processed, just 1,898 of 540,996 contained a mark next to the name of any political party. That pathetic response guarantees 1998 will produce the smallest number of such contributions since the check-off system was instituted in 1974.

Democrats did somewhat better (by which we mean pathetically) at garnering tax-form donations than the other parties. More than 800 loyal Dems coughed up about \$6,000. But that doesn't compare well with 1997, when more than 2,000 donkey party loyalists chipped in well over 10 grand. And it's a long fall from 1996, when more than 3,000 Democrats fattened the party's coffers with a record \$13,756.

For Republicans, the situation is even grimmer. For the second year in a row, the second-largest party in Maine finished third in both number of contributors and amount raised. Just over 450 members of the GOP added \$3,300 to the elephantine effort. But the Green Party, which doesn't have, among other things, ballot status or the common sense of an Atlantic salmon in spawning season, still won the financial backing of 550 folks, who somehow got hold of over \$3,800.

If it's any consolation, all these political organizations look pretty good when compared to the Reform Party. Ross Perot's fading legacy was alluring enough to extract less than \$400 from just over 80 true believers (by which we mean suckers).

In my room

It didn't take Republican Bill Cohen long after joining the Clinton cabinet as secretary of defense to forget he used to claim to be a fiscal conservative. According to the July-August issue of the magazine *Capital Style*, Cohen has spent the last 18 months redecorating his office at a cost to taxpayers of \$52,000.

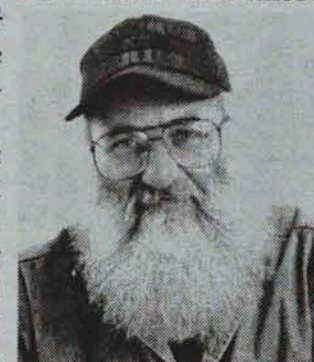
Although Cohen claims the military is so poor it must close bases in order to pay for modern weapons, he somehow found enough spare cash to finance the restoration of several pieces of antique furniture to the tune of \$15,000. The new "aires blue" carpet for his office suite was selected by his wife, Janet Langhart, and cost \$14,000. A Murphy bed was deemed by Cohen to be such a crucial item of Pentagon equipment

that it was rushed ordered, boosting the bill by 15 percent to \$2,343.

By the time the spending spree was over, the defense secretary had exceeded his budget for alterations by \$22,000.

Cohen may have caught a case of tax-and-spend liberalism from Bill Clinton, but he doesn't appear to share another of the president's faults. "[D]on't think the defense secretary had extracurricular motives in mind when sprucing up his quarters," reported the magazine. "The bed came with a twin mattress."

politics and other mistakes



■ AL DIAMOND

Clumsy

Democrat Tom Connolly's gubernatorial campaign seems to be having a tough time deciding whether it wants to be funny or stupid. In support of the former, a Connolly backer in Lewiston printed up some bumper stickers for his candidate, who's rarely seen without his long-billed fisherman's cap. They read, "Le Chapeau for Governor."

But the evidence for stupid comes almost daily from Connolly's press releases. A July 30 handout was headlined, "Big Money Lobbyist Supports King." The "lobbyist" in question was former Gov. Ken Curtis, who — according to the release — "has probably been treated very well by the current administration."

Too shocking. Also too transparent.

Intergalactic

When an envelope arrived in our mailbox recently from *The Enterprise*, we naturally assumed the Trekkies were writing to tell us they'd decided to run a candidate for governor. After all, we reasoned, in a field topped by the likes of Angus King, Tom Connolly and Jim Longley, plenty of voters are probably feeling alienated enough to vote for an alien.

Imagine our disappointment when we discovered this *Enterprise* was not a Star Fleet space cruiser, but an ordinary weekly newspaper in Bucksport, filled not with reports of bold explorations of new worlds, but the routine happenings of small-town life. The release informed us that Jean Hay, failed congressional and U.S. Senate candidate, had joined the staff as managing editor. And while Hay hails from the far-left fringes of politics, it would still be a bit of a stretch to insinuate that's the same as being from another planet.

If people actually contribute to the Reform Party, there must be others who'll give away money for no reason at all. Let's find out. Send donations to this column, care of CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101. Or e-mail ishmaelia@awi.net, and we'll send somebody to pick up the loot.

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I want(ed) to live forever

I was eating lunch the other day, perusing one of my bajillion unread *New Yorkers*, when I nearly spat up my gruel. In the July 27 issue's brief review of the recently released slam poetry documentary, "Slam-Nation," I came across the name Taylor Mali. Well, to say I *came across* his name is putting it mildly. His name drove through my eye like a nail, a giant rusty nail that Hulk Hogan was pounding with an anvil, an anvil the size of a Chevy — but I digress.

The cause of my distress was that Taylor Mali is my friend, and my friends are not supposed to be in that magazine. I'm supposed to be in the *New Yorker*. He apparently overlooked this clause in our friendship agreement.

Taylor and I first met in 1993, when I was *CBW's* arts editor. He phoned me, looking for a little ink on his slam poetry series at Granny Kil-lam's. The next day he showed up and planted himself in the reception area until I would talk to him. "Such a pesky man," I thought, but I was sucked in by the Mali charm. I agreed to go to Granny's and see what this slam thing was all about.

Slam poetry is a competition in which participating poets are rated Olympic-style, by a judging panel of volunteer audience members. Those not judging are encouraged to freely voice their opinions of the poems and scoring. Under Taylor's reign, there were scores as low as "negative infinity," and the jeers often began before a poet took the stage. It was a ball.

I not only covered the series, but also started competing — and winning. In 1995, Taylor asked me to join the Maine Slam Team and take part in the national competition. As I was resigning from my job soon and looking for any way to forestall work, I signed on. Our team, which included local poets Russ Sargent and Tanya Whiton, finished fourth in the country.

Taylor left Maine that summer, and the Portland slams folded. In the winter of 1996, Taylor, who was then operating out of Providence, R.I., and our friend Ray, who ran the Providence slams, told me they wanted me on their team. I only had to win a slam there to qualify. The day I was scheduled to compete, there was a snowstorm, and I decided not to make the trek south. I was burnt-out on competition and never rescheduled. That year, Team Providence swept to victory in the nationals in Portland, Ore. And the filming of "Slam-Nation" took place.

The first thing I did upon reading the review was to call Tanya to seek solace. "I always knew Taylor was going to be famous," she said, and attempted to move on to another subject. "But it's the *New Yorker*," I wailed. "He was the only one singled out." I read from the review: "Taylor Mali of Team Providence is particularly entertaining, a loudmouth ironist out for

the poetic kill." She heard "loudmouth ironist." All I could hear was "particularly entertaining."

"Jealousy is a map," said my not-ordinarily overly spiritual friend, when I called again later to see if her ire had at all fanned up. "I'm not jealous, I'm envious," I sniped, and then told her to stop reading self-improvement books before I had to come over to her house and pry a crystal out of her mouth.

All other options exhausted, I went to the source. Taylor's and my correspondence had trailed off in the last year since he moved to New York City. I typed a quick hello and then cut to the chase: "[H]ow famous are you? Do you have people? Do I have to come down and beat your ego back to size?" (During our slam days, I was Chief Deputy in Charge of Reining in Taylor's Overinflated Ego, and was more than willing to dust off my badge again.)

Instead of being encrusted with the usual Taylor hubris, his reply was sweet and suspiciously coy. While he did say he has enjoyed being recognized on the street and mentioned in the *New Yorker* and the *Times* (which called him an "unofficial king of the genre" and "a ranting comic showman and literary provocateur"), he was more interested in catching up. He asked me about myself and said he had been working with underprivileged youth, was doing what he termed "slam community service" and was not competing at this year's nationals. "Hey! What's going on down there?" I responded. "Who are you, and what did you do with my friend Taylor? Did you just hack into his e-mail, or are you holding him hostage, waiting until the movie gets really big so you can ask a huge ransom?" But the truth is, it was swell being in touch with my friend again.

It is, in fact, fortunate I was not at the 1996 nationals. I know my name would not have appeared in reviews. The most I could've possibly hoped for was to not end up on the cutting room floor. And if I hadn't, you could be sure I would have jumped up during my nanosecond of fame and proclaimed, "See that blur of black in the background, there, with the flash of light reflecting off my glasses — that's ME!"

There would have been no Maine Slam Team, no fourth-place national title, no Portland slam scene without Taylor. Tanya and the *Times* were right. He was destined for fame, and he is the king of the genre. Taylor earned his fame, and I am proud of him.

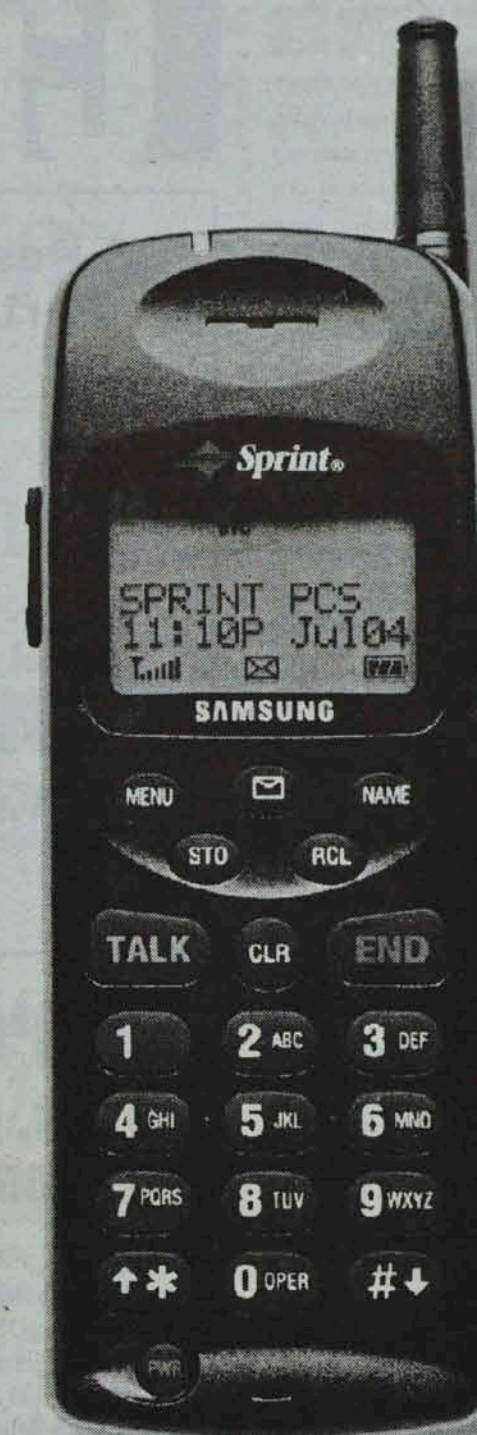
And now if you'll excuse me, I have to go suck on a crystal.

If "SlamNation" ever makes it to Portland theaters, Elizabeth Peavey will be the audience member blubbing in the corner.

outta my way



ELIZABETH PEAVEY



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It's a good week for huge out-of-state corporations to suck up helpless Maine companies and squeeze all the social consciousness and profit out of them. Fortunately, most Maine companies have the social consciousness of the Serbian army and the profit potential of a Kevin Costner epic about delivering the mail, so no big loss. Let's start with Guy Gannett Communications, parent company of WGME-TV and the Portland Press Herald.



According to the Bangor Daily News, the finalists for purchasing the local media conglomerate are the William Dean Singleton MediaNews Group and the Seattle Times Company. "It's come down to the worst and the best," was the way one Gannett staffer characterized the contenders. Singleton, which runs 140 newspapers, has a reputation for cutting costs and shrinking local news coverage. The Seattle Times, on the other hand, is a family-run operation known for quality journalism. According to insiders, Singleton has the edge, because it's willing to pay as much as \$15 million more in order to convince the Gannett heirs to sell the papers without requiring the new owner to abide by existing union contracts. While some Gannett officials, such as board chairwoman Maddy Corson, oppose that, other family members are said to be threatening legal action if the company is sold for less than top dollar — an estimated \$200 million or more. An official announcement of the sale is supposed to happen any minute.

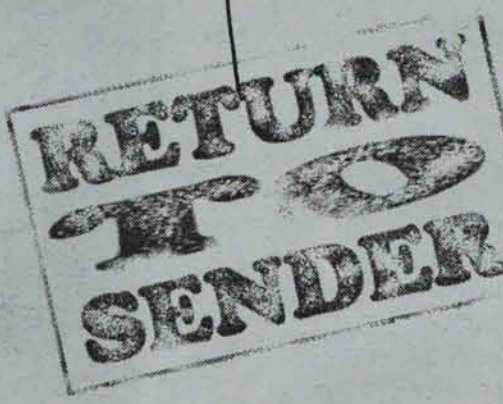
■ The Portland Pirates hockey team was sold on Aug. 7. Mentmore Holdings, a New York corporation that builds sports complexes, outbid eight rivals for the minor league franchise. Mentmore was also a player in an earlier attempt to buy the Pirates, working behind the scenes with ex-U.S. Senate candidate John Hathaway, whose bid fell apart in late June when Mentmore pulled out. It's obvious from that incident and statements by company officials that Mentmore's real interest in Portland lies in constructing a new facility to replace the Cumberland County Civic Center. But the land for that project is owned by a foundation set up by the late philanthropist Betty Noyce — a foundation that's not interested in cooperating with money-grubbers from away.

■ Old Port mega-landlord Joe Soley's Seamen's Club restaurant re-opened on Aug. 7, after clearing out the cockroaches and rats that had caused it to flunk two city health inspections. Meanwhile, city inspectors have been paying unusual attention to the expansion of the Bitter End, a bar owned by Scot Orchow but located in one of Soley's buildings on Fore Street. Although Orchow won City Council approval for the renovation on Aug. 3, more inspectors were on-site on Aug. 7. Orchow said the city is trying to "screw Joe," but had almost "screwed me."

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The U.S. Postal Service may not be moving to Lewiston-Auburn. But it wants Portland to think so.

■ CONNIE PACILLO

Portland officials don't believe the U.S. Postal Service (USPS). A threat by the USPS to move its new distribution center project and 1,000 jobs to the Lewiston-Auburn area is being viewed as a strategic ploy to force cooperation from the city.

"I spoke to Al Lazaroff [USPS Plant Manager] [the week of July 28] and if anything, he assured this office he would do everything to find a place in Portland so the workers were not displaced," said Jackie Potter, Congressman Tom Allen's chief of staff. "Al assured me they would stay in the Greater Portland area." News that the USPS was looking to move to Lewiston-Auburn came as a complete surprise to Potter.

But Lazaroff denies the organization is playing games and says the possibility of relocating is still "very real." He said he didn't recall speaking with Potter, nor did he remember telling her the USPS would stay in Portland. He said the charge that postal officials are trying to put pressure on Portland officials — who've argued the project would harm the environment and contribute to suburban sprawl near Exit 8 — "is not true."

Portland city councilors met Aug. 3 to discuss, for the second time, whether to take by eminent domain the Rand Road property where the postal service wants to build. Councilors listened to concerns raised on both sides of the issue: environmentalists and neighbors vs. post office employees and local economic development officials. Then they opted to table

the proposal for a few weeks.

Portland City Manager Bob Ganley said he found it odd that postal officials "spent over a year going through the site selection process and in all that time, never once mentioned going to Lewiston-Auburn." Ganley views the USPS threat to move as the post office, "doing what they thought they had to do, given the direction this was going."

Portland Mayor Tom Kane said he was surprised when the Council decided to table the issue instead of voting to take the land. But what surprised Kane even more was USPS representative Barbara Patterson telling the Council that a move to Lewiston-Auburn made more economic sense than staying in Portland. "It seemed strange to me that she even had a dollar amount," Kane said. "That was surprising. Everyone I talked to said it just didn't seem to be right."

"This was an 18 month to 2 year process," Kane added. "How can you, in two weeks, pull this Lewiston-Auburn site out as a viable option? You have to provide rationale and back-up to us."

Councilor James Cloutier said the USPS statement, describing Lewiston-Auburn as the most cost effective site, struck him as odd. According to Cloutier, the site-selection process in Portland to date has cost approximately \$300,000. For the USPS to write off that expense, he said, seems "contradictory."

City attorney Gary Wood wondered why, since the city had been discussing taking the site for the last four or five

months, the post office "didn't say anything about Lewiston-Auburn back then."

But Councilors Cheryl Leeman and George Campbell see the threat of losing the USPS to Lewiston-Auburn as very real. The post office will move its proposed distribution center if they have to, Leeman said. "Lewiston wants it," she said, "and they want it bad."

The Council's move to take the land "caught the USPS' attention," said Campbell. He said if anyone thinks the post office has been "arrogant, pushy or manipulative, they better take a step back and look at one simple truth — they have the right to condemn that supersedes ours and they aren't using it."

To determine the best course of action, the Council created an ad hoc committee, chaired by Councilor Nathan Smith, to sit down with all parties concerned: USPS representatives, neighborhood groups, postal employees and environmentalists. Smith said he hopes to meet with USPS officials within the next two weeks. The committee members are expected to report their findings to the full Council in early September.

Officials in Lewiston and Auburn aren't waiting for the results of those discussions. They've already contacted Lazaroff, who said he was pleased they wanted to sit down and talk about what the two cities could offer. That informal "sit-down" talk took the form of a full-blown proposal to postal officials on July 28 by members from Lewiston-Auburn's joint economic growth council, mayors

from both cities and officials from the local airport.

Lazaroff said he still thinks the Rand Road property is the best site, and said if that deal falls through, the USPS will put out another request for proposals and look at alternative sites from Scarborough to Lewiston. And he won't wait long, he said, to take that action. "If you spend six weeks talking to the city," Lazaroff said, "and the site is still a no-go, well, I've lost too much time."

Making peace

Somali justice

Immigrant community keeps its kids out of court

A group of Somali elders has brokered a peace agreement among 15 Somali teenagers from Portland who spent about two weeks fighting each other earlier this summer. The conflict could have resulted in as many as 10 criminal cases. But Portland police have accepted the agreement, and all charges have been dropped.

The fighting, which mostly involved fists and threats, started as a dispute between just two boys, but quickly grew into a battle involving their friends as well. Ahmed Hassan, a Somali elder who was part of the group that mediated the peace, said keeping the community's problems out of the criminal justice system was the best way to resolve them. "If it goes to the

police," Hassan said, "the problem will be solved, but the relationships between the families will be destroyed."

To reach an agreement, Hassan and 19 other elders, some of whom drove to Portland from Boston, met with the boys, their families and witnesses for nine hours one day in July. They listened to each side of the conflict, and then emphasized the negative impact fighting would have on the boys and the community. In the end, each of the families involved promised to end the conflict. They also agreed to pay \$2,000 to a fund maintained by the Somali elders if there are any future violations of the agreement.

The elders were afraid that if the fighting were handled through the criminal justice system or left unchecked, it would escalate. Many of the Somalis who've immigrated to Portland left their homeland because of a bloody civil war between some of the same clan groups who are neighbors here now. But the Somalis also bring with them a tradition of solving community problems through mediation.

Victoria Mares Hershey, minority relations director for the Portland police, said she believes the city should continue to draw on the Somalis' mediation skills. "This is a very good example of what can happen when you have a strong family unit," Hershey said. "Community people understand. It's their responsibility to be faithful to the agreement."

KIMBERLY JEAN SMITH

loose change

Portland is a complex place. These statistics, gathered by CBW's staff, will do nothing to make it simpler.

Arrests by Portland police for indecent exposure:
1996: 6
1997: 5

Rolls of film exposed by 60 Minute Photo in Portland:
1996: 56,000
1997: 60,000

X-ray exposures performed at Maine Medical Center in Portland:
1996: 68,603
1997: 71,804

Number of "interested parties" seeking to buy the Portland Pirates hockey team, according to the Portland Press Herald, Aug. 8, page 1A: 8

Number of groups that "expressed interest" in buying the Pirates, according to the Portland Press Herald, Aug. 8, page 1D: 9

Number of hospitals mentioned in an Aug. 11 Portland Press Herald front page story that are expecting an increase in births in September and October due to hanky-panky during last winter's ice storm: 2

Number of hospitals mentioned that are not expecting an increase in births: 4

Odds this was really a news story: 0

Percentage of Maine teachers by age:

under 30: 10
30-39: 21
40-49: 42
50+: 26

Size of the problem of replacing retiring teachers over the next decade: big

Average annual charitable donations by individuals in 1996:
Maine: \$433
U.S.: \$706

Number of syphilis cases per 100,000 people:
Maine: 0.2
U.S.: 3.2

Number of workplace injuries in Maine per 100 workers:
1995: 9.7
1996: 9.4

Number of work-related fatalities in Maine:
1995: 18
1996: 23

Score of Aug. 5 softball game between the staffs of Cumberland County District Attorney Stephanie Anderson and Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer & Nelson, the law firm that employs Anderson's challenger in the November election, Neal Pratt:
Bernstein Shur: 15
district attorney: 14

Number of references in "The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations":
Georgia: 2
California: 1
Maine: 0

Number of references in "Bartlett's Familiar Quotations":
Georgia: 3
California: 3
Maine: 1

Number of references in H.L. Mencken's "A New Dictionary of Quotations":
Georgia: 2
California: 3
Maine: 4

"What is robbing a bank," asked Bertolt Brecht, "compared with founding a bank?" What is thinking up our own items for this column, compared with having you send yours to CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 or e-mail editor@cbw.maine.com?

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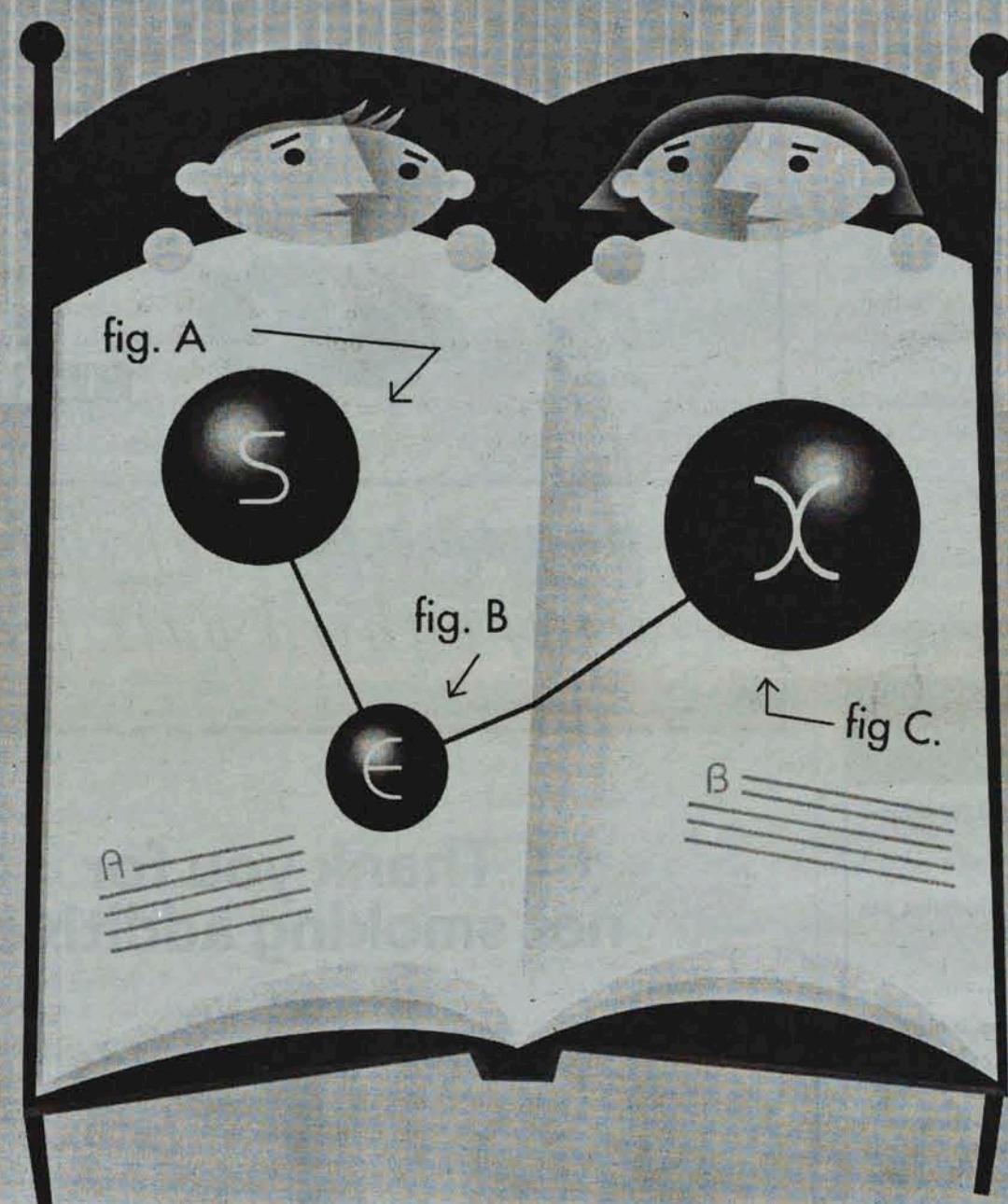
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SEX

When it comes to sex education, lust and pleasure take a back seat to politics and fear.

■ ZOE S. MILLER

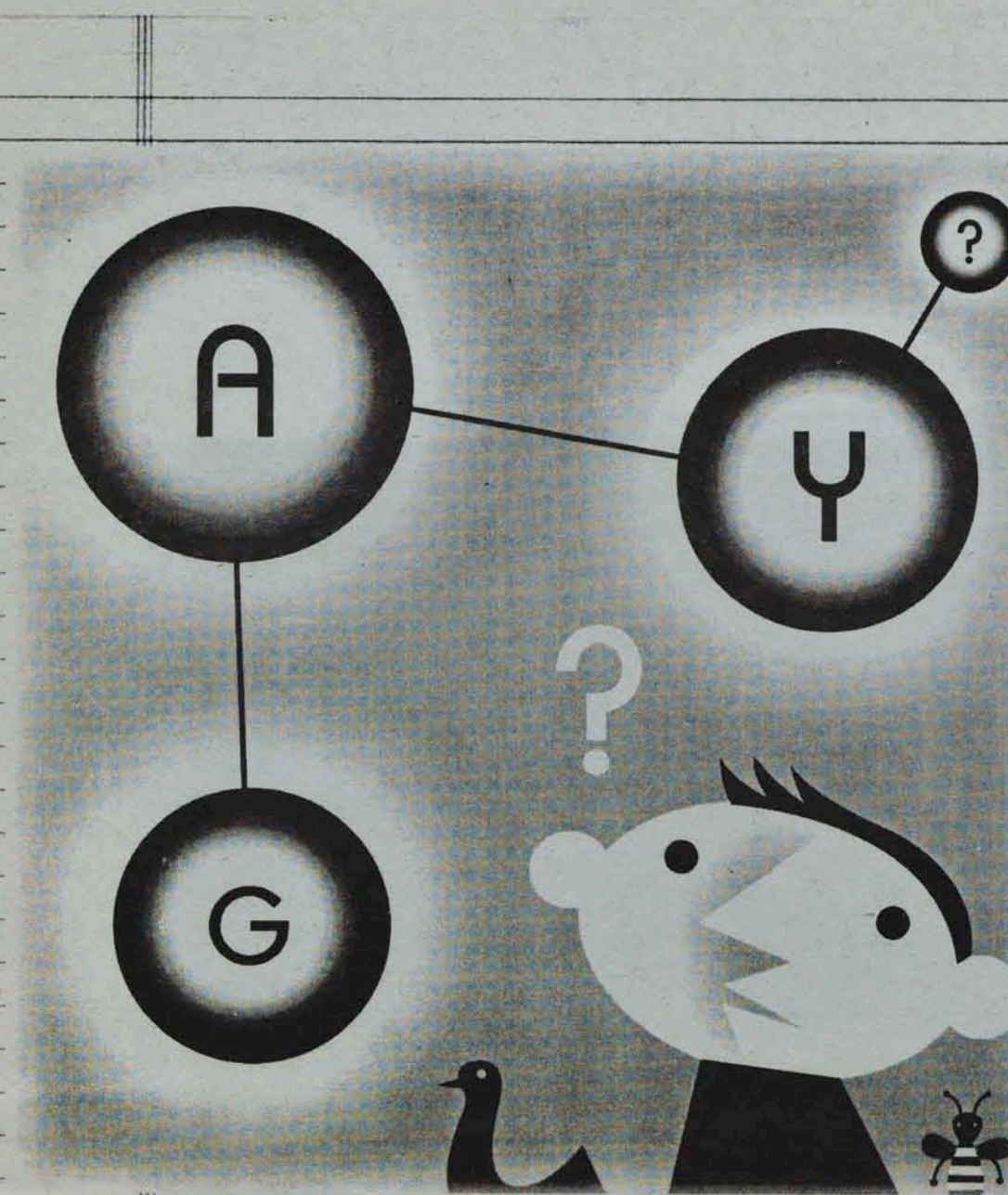
Toward the end of her 9th-grade year, Jane Jones (not her real name) decided she was ready to lose her virginity. Jones was dating a boy she trusted, the same boyfriend she'd had for several years. She'd talked it over with her best friend. She'd even told her mother she felt ready for sex — and her mom had given her a condom. Still, the experience itself was a letdown.

"After the first time, I waited like three months to do it again because it hurt and I was disappointed," says Jones, now 18, a recent graduate of South Portland High School. "There was so much hype. I just remember thinking 'This is it? This is what people are saying is so great?' I just thought the first time would be really spectacular — something that I'd never feel again. Because they always told the girls to wait until they were married or in love."

Jones is hardly the first person to be tripped up by the conflicting and moralistic messages kids get about sex. Her formal sex education started in the 5th grade with details about the physiology of puberty and continued in middle school with information about AIDS, pregnancy and sexual abuse. But homosexuality was ignored. Lust and pleasure were given passing glances. What it feels like to have sex — emotionally and physically — were topics outside the domain of her school system. She learned why she should abstain, but not what made so many people decide sex was worth risking life and limb over. That part was left for her to suss out on her own.

"I'm actually glad I started when I did because my friends all came to me and I'm glad they felt comfortable talking to me," says Jones. What did she tell them? "Don't expect it to be spectacular. People make it out to be special. I thought there was gonna be more emotional stuff with it."

The dilemma of how to broach the emotions and pleasures that come with sex is one Maddie Akeley deals with constantly as a health educator at South Portland's Memorial Middle School. "I always want to balance the pleasure with the danger," says Akeley, "but the message you want to leave in their minds is the careful one." Still, fear for her students' well-being is hardly the only factor limiting the scope of



Akeley's sex education unit.

"My biggest frustration is to not feel like I have permission to talk about [homosexuality]," says Akeley. Though she strives to be inclusive in her language — saying "partner" instead of "boyfriend" or "girlfriend" — she rarely mentions homosexuality, except when answering students' questions.

South Portland is no different from most of Maine's school systems. Few, if any, are clamoring to start a sexual revolution. Conservatism and fear — both among school board members and the community at large — have made educators wary of covering topics like homosexuality, masturbation and orgasms in any detail. School officials' reluctance to enter the minefield of sexuality is understandable, but the result may be shortchanging kids. If the only thing young people get is a grab bag of hazards, how are they supposed to know that what they're feeling — be it lust for the same or opposite sex — is normal?

Classroom closet

Jen Stuart, 17, came out to her classmates at South Portland High School this year. Stuart let her bisexuality be known in order to show straight students they have queer peers, and to offer hope to gay kids too scared to come out themselves. She thinks omitting

homosexuality from the curriculum is unacceptable — and dangerous.

Based on her own experience, and what she hears from teens in Outright — a Portland-based group for queer and questioning young people — Stuart believes gay and bisexual kids aren't getting the specific information they need to practice safe sex. She says lots of them don't know anything about gays and lesbians having sex until they learn it firsthand. "It wasn't even until last summer that I knew a woman could give AIDS to another woman," says Stuart. "It seems common sense, but I guess it didn't click to me that that was possible."

Safe sex isn't Stuart's only concern. She's seen the way her own coming out changed kids' attitudes toward queer students, and she's sure that talking about sexual orientation in middle school would help to break down the stereotypes that lead to harassment and violence. "It's kind of like when kids first learn about sex," she says. "They're like 'Ooh, gross!' But as they go along they see it's just a part of life."

Unfortunately, Stuart is up against a system that fears opening the borders of sex education to include homosexuality could cause parents to call for cutbacks in what schools currently offer. "The adults in this community haven't decided how they want to treat gay couples — how can

the school assume that role?" says Cheryl Jensen, South Portland's superintendent of schools. "The teachers will go as far as they feel they can go, but they want to stay in a position to teach. That's a limiting factor. We have a society that hasn't decided whether to give job rights to a segment of the population. To ask the school to offer it in the sex ed curriculum is unfair. In this area we can't be on the cutting edge."

Besides, says Jensen, the school's primary responsibility is academics. "There are a number of areas outside of academics that we are unable to provide," she says. "We have kids who are hungry, who don't have enough clothes, who don't have loving parents. It's unfortunate that we are unable to meet these other needs."

Stuart disagrees. She says her parents pay taxes just like everyone else's, so why should the curriculum exclude her? "I think it's ignorant," she says. "I don't know what to do to make her change her attitude, except if she had a child going through school who got a disease because she didn't have all the information. They're putting it all on the parents and forgetting the parents never learned it either."

The parent trap

Health educator Louise Tate teaches the puberty unit of sex ed to South Portland's 5th graders. The ground Tate treads is largely factual, along the lines of "this is what's going to happen to your body," and "this is where babies come from." "The major reason we do this is to help kids understand what's coming their way," she says. "It's very difficult because some kids are years away while others have had their period. It's hard to find a middle ground."

Tate wants kids to bring the information they learn in her class home to discuss with their parents. To encourage participation from moms and dads, South Portland expanded its preview of the course to include parents not just of 5th graders, but of kids in earlier grades as well. "We figured if we opened it up, we might get more of a turnout," says Tate. But as in years past, each parent seminar yielded less than 10 people — mostly moms. Some nights as few as

two showed up.

Yet Tate went on with her previews undeterred, using the two-hour sessions to give tips on becoming an "askable" parent and to offer tricks such as using trips in the car for discussions of embarrassing topics. She assured the parents that their influence on their kids will outweigh the impact she'll have in her brief classroom course. "It's not an issue of certain information being harmful. None of it is harmful," Tate told one group. "Kids who have access to information are much more likely to delay activity."

It seemed a shame that hundreds of parents were missing out on such practical tips. Apathy? Discomfort? Unmanageable schedules? Whatever the reason for the adults' absence, they missed a great free lesson on talking sex with their kids.

Carnal knowledge

Where Tate leaves off, the Quest program picks up. Akeley has taught Quest — a national drug prevention course sponsored by the Lions Club that includes lessons on sexuality and reproductive issues — to 6th-, 7th- and 8th-graders at Memorial since it was introduced in South Portland 13 years ago. Quest is where many kids hear for the first time about the perils of AIDS, unprotected sex and drug use.

"My attitude is that you can't teach sex education without drug prevention because they're so interrelated," says Akeley. "So when the decision-making section comes up, it seems the obvious place to talk about sexuality. A lot of the decisions kids make about sex are under the influence of drugs. So if you're giving them all sorts of information on how to be safe about sex and they're under the influence of drugs, it all goes out the window."

Still, it's hard not to wonder if teaching kids to abstain from drugs and sex in the same breath will reinforce the idea that sex is unhealthy.

Akeley acknowledges the need to strike a balance between the pitfalls of sex and the joys of lust, but the physical danger

"The adults in this community haven't decided how they want to treat gay couples — how can the school assume that role? ... To ask the school to offer it in the sex ed curriculum is unfair. In this area we can't be on the cutting edge." — Cheryl Jensen, South Portland school superintendent

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



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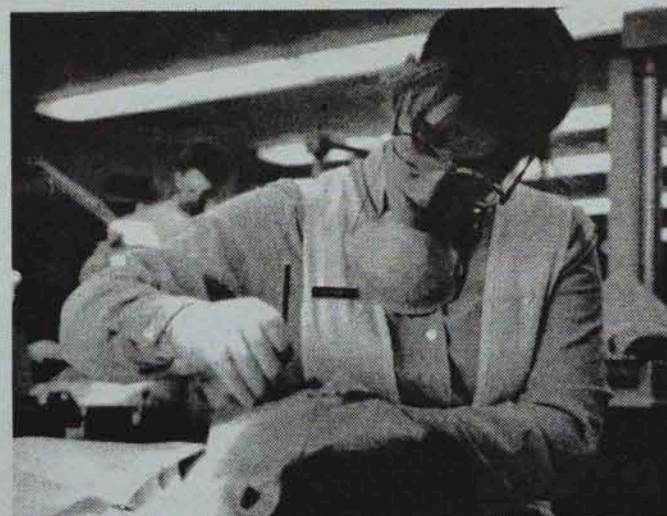
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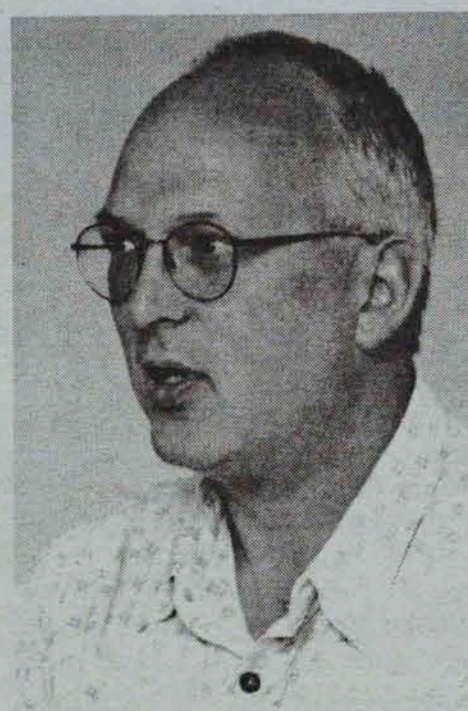
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TEXTBOOK SEX CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

isn't the only thing she's trying to communicate. She also hopes to counter the media's portrayal of sex. "The Jerry Springer Show" is the bane of my existence," she says. "What's normal sexual behavior in [kids'] minds seems to have shifted." Akeley says she talks about feelings and "about how just because you're mad doesn't mean you need to punch someone's lights out. The same goes for when you're horny. You don't have to have sex. It's a big responsibility to be in a sexual relationship. When you are that intimate with someone, you owe them. You're putting your trust in them and they are in you."

David Vaughan, an educator at the Wayne School in Portland, finds

personally believe in my value system isn't particularly relevant," says Vaughan. "Whether I think same-sex encounters are morally acceptable or not, it's not my place to discuss that."

Akeley, on the other hand, believes she should discuss homosexuality, but her school system won't allow her to do that. "I don't want to do anything more than create an atmosphere where being gay is OK," she says. "I feel like that segment of the population is not getting what they need."

The only time Akeley says she feels safe talking about queer issues is when students put questions about gay and lesbian sexuality in the classroom's anonymous question box. Vaughan keeps

a question box, too, and both teachers agree any query that finds its way into that box is fair game for discussion. "I don't bring up certain issues, but nothing's off-limits to them," says Akeley. "I feel if I do [make something taboo] I'll lose them." But some years, the question never comes up, and another crop of teens ends up receiving no education about homosexuality.

By the time kids enter high school, even these limited lessons in sex ed give way almost completely

to mainstream academics. Most schools' semester-long mandatory health course hits the basics again, and some teachers bring in speakers from groups like Outright. Still, at the age when most kids are actually becoming sexually active — a time when a discussion of values and decisions about sexuality would surely be personally meaningful — the subject is dropped.

Sex ed on the edge

If people like Christy Everett have their way, sex education will be changing — and soon. Everett, 25, is carrying the torch for a not-so-new concept called "comprehensive sexuality education."

Everett is the director of Family Crisis Shelter's Young Adult Abuse Prevention Program (YAAPP). She and Shawn La-Grega, travel to high schools throughout southern Maine, presenting plays and discussions on dating violence. The program's appeal to kids stems partly from the fact that its two young instructors speak frankly in the informal language of youth. What drives their

message home, though, is that they set

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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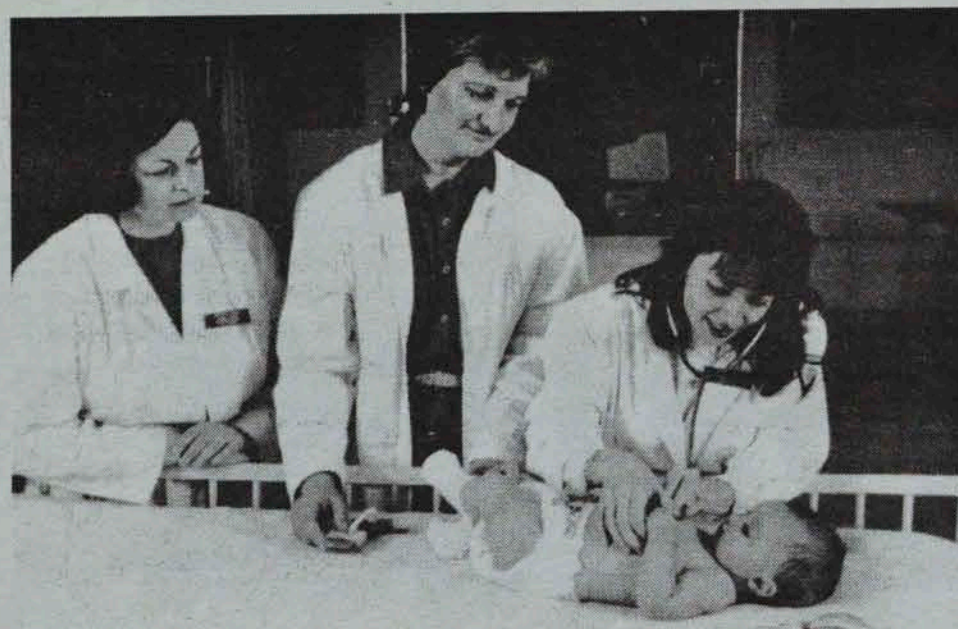
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TEXTBOOK SEX CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

the issue of dating violence against the sexist, racist, homophobic backdrop of the average school. "When we get the evaluations back," says Everett, "they say, 'I wish you would talk about eating disorders' or 'I wish you would talk about gay and lesbian issues' — stuff that we're supposedly not there to deal with. But because we touch on it lightly, they're interested. Dating violence may not be an issue for them, but homophobia could be huge."

Everett says what's "most rampant" when she and LaGrega go into classrooms is homophobia. "They're laughing and saying, 'Ooh, that's gross,' because that's what they've been taught. I

"I don't think [the teachers] ever asked us 'OK, you're all hot and heavy and he says he won't use a condom. What do you do?' Because that's the pleasure part of it. They're just so afraid of being sued or fired or getting in trouble from the school committee." — former South Portland High School student

think if a student were to say a really racist comment, teachers would intervene. But when they make a homophobic or a sexist comment they don't. [The teachers say,] 'I wouldn't make it down the hall.'"

Everett doesn't accept that answer. Feedback like this has led her to believe it's unethical for YAAPP to go into a school without training the faculty and staff first, a practice she hopes to make a mandatory part of her program within the next two years. "They're the role models at the school," she says. "If they're not aware of language problems, then how can they help?"

Everett thinks schools should overhaul their curricula to draw clear connections between academic subjects and the social issues of kids' lives. "I think schools can be on the cutting edge," she says. "But if they aren't, it's not schools that should be blamed." Rather, she says, the community should fix what's wrong with sex education. YAAPP is just one small way of improving sex ed, but Everett dreams of expanding it to create a theater piece that pulls together diverse issues — the impact of gender stereotypes, the myths about good and bad girls, victim-blaming, racism, sexism, homophobia.

Everett has a kindred spirit in Erik Richard, 21, a Portland School Committee member who has worked as a gay and youth activist. Richard hopes to use his position on the school board to push for a more coherent and comprehensive curriculum. "Unfortunately," he says, "homosexuality is left out of all the subjects. And when you leave it out,

you're putting all the burden on the sex education program."

Richard says homosexuality is part of the sex ed curriculum in the Portland school system (where officials didn't return calls seeking an interview). He cites South Portland, which has a program that's neither ultra-conservative nor overly progressive, as an example of the kind of sex ed offered in most classrooms. Schools avoid homosexuality because it's political, says Richard, and because they're afraid of the Christian right and families who might complain. "School shouldn't be a place where politics and fear dictate education," he says. "It's not a consistent and well-rounded approach. When you have the NEA [National Education Association], the MEA [Maine Education Association], the attorney general, the guidance counselors all saying you need to talk about [homosexuality] ... Don't you need to?"

Fran Mullin, director of training and education for the Family Planning Association of Maine, says her group advocates comprehensive sexuality education that includes homosexuality. "You're really looking at what that community needs," Mullin says. "When there are community surveys done, most parents will want their kids to have comprehensive sex education. They appreciate having the opportunity for the schools to introduce it."

Going all the way

Jane Jones, the recent South Portland graduate, says sex education should go a lot further. "I think the stuff that I really needed to know — like what oral sex was, how to perform it on a guy — I learned from my friends," she says.

Jones and other advocates for improving sex ed aren't suggesting kids get tutorials on the art of fellatio. Rather, their goal is to give kids all the information they need to understand who they are as sexual beings and to make choices they can live with. Refusing to acknowledge homosexuality and bisexuality doesn't get them any closer to that. Neither does neglecting to talk about the ways physical pleasures cloud decisions about sex.

As long as teachers are talking about sex, they have a responsibility to give the full picture. That includes putting a stop to ridiculous messages like, "Sex is dirty, so save it for someone you love," and such trite advice as, "You don't have to do anything you don't want." Frank talk would make all the difference.

As it is, we're not fooling our kids by avoiding uncomfortable subjects. "I don't think they ever asked us, 'OK, you're all hot and heavy and he says he won't use a condom. What do you do?'" says Jones. "Because that's the pleasure part of it. They're just so afraid of being sued or fired or getting in trouble from the school committee."

If teachers are afraid to talk about sex, how can we expect the kids to feel?

Zoe S. Miller is CBW's departing arts and features editor. She plans to pursue freelance writing and hopes to become a health educator.

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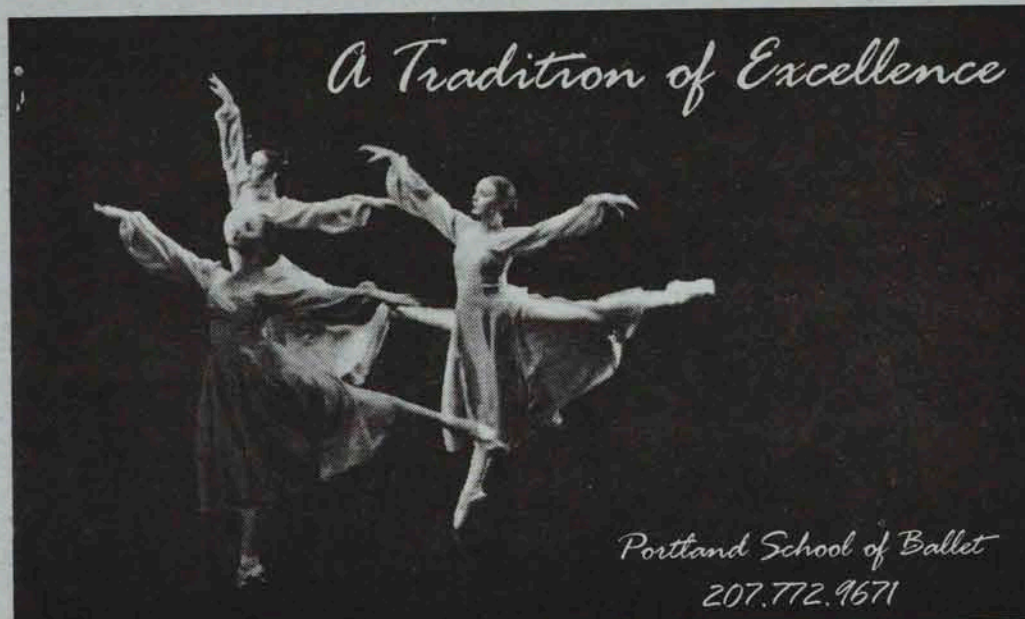
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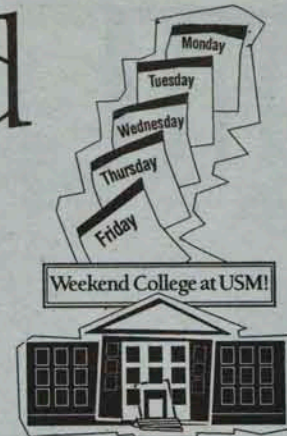
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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

Comment

Sexy suggestion

Faced with the perils of AIDS and teen pregnancy, Maine schools decided a few years ago to get serious about teaching kids the physiology of sex. Since then, the state's teen pregnancy rate has dropped precipitously, making Maine among the most successful states in the nation at preventing unwanted births and abortions. Surveys show our young people are still sexually active, but they're taking steps to protect themselves and their partners.

It's time for us to expand the formula for success to include kids who are sexual minorities (see "Textbook sex," page 10). Fear of unwanted pregnancy may not mean much in the lives of gay and lesbian teens, but the dangers of AIDS and discrimination loom large. Compared to their straight peers, queer youth drop out of school more often, have higher rates of homelessness and make more suicide attempts. They get fewer chances to see positive role models, or to get information about their sexuality from caring, knowledgeable adults. Too many schools, wary of a backlash from conservative groups, have chosen not to address homosexuality in their sex ed programs.

Ignoring young gays and lesbians not only serves to keep them stuffed in the closet, but it sends a dangerous message to straight kids that gay sex is the ultimate taboo. We're willing to teach students about testes and fallopian tubes, but we won't reach out to that girl who just fell in love with her best female friend.

It's true that some people will always object on religious grounds to teaching kids about homosexuality, but many parents object for reasons that are as complex as sex itself. We've learned to talk about semen, but not about orgasm. We can face our responsibility to educate kids about reproduction and disease, but we can't bring

ourselves to have teachers talk about pleasure. Because gay lovemaking — like most straight coupling — isn't about making babies, it falls beyond the reach of publicly sanctioned health classes.

Straight kids have some hope of learning about the joy of sex by watching adults around them kiss and hug. Queer kids have to figure out morality, love and intimacy on their own. That's an awfully big burden for someone in 8th grade. We should do what we can to lighten it.

Love, anonymous

In the last couple issues, we've printed letters from kids who asked that their names be withheld. For the record, our policy is always to include the names of the authors unless there's good reason to protect their privacy. Those reasons include fear of losing a job or place to live, or fear of retaliation in school. We never publish anonymous letters unless we know the identity of the writers. If you've got something to say in these pages, we welcome your opinion. Just be brave enough to sign it.

Farewell

This week we're saying goodbye to Zoë S. Miller, assistant arts and features editor. Miller plans to pursue freelance writing and return to school in hopes of becoming a health educator. She'll continue writing her nightlife column for *CBW*, "Nocturnal emissions," along with other articles for the paper.

LAURA CONAWAY

ESSAY

Not for the short-winded

An advocate for campaign finance reform weighs in

ALISON SMITH

Reforming the way political campaigns are funded has proven to be an impossible task for American politicians. In Congress, we have seen effort after effort, no matter how modest, fail. Despite all the evidence of dysfunction in our current system, it seems that incumbent legislators are unwilling to change the system they've mastered.

Here in Maine, legislators rejected 40 bills in 10 years, and it wasn't until citizens took things into their own hands that progress was made. Now Maine's landmark Clean Elections Act inspires reformers from Washington state to Washington, D.C. This campaign reform model aims to reduce the influence of special interest money in elections, encourage qualified people to run for office and put voters back in their rightful place at the center of elections.

Reworking an entrenched system that each and every current and former legislature has used to get elected is not an easy task. Although our current system has few defenders, it represents the "devil we know," rather than some unpredictable unknown. Few would argue that our system is fine the way it is.

There are those who feel that the answer lies simply with more disclosure. Certainly, disclosure is an important cornerstone of any campaign finance system. Anything we can do to make relevant information accessible to the public will enhance its usefulness.

But I disagree with the notion that if only voters knew how much money candidates were raising and spending, they would be able to make an educated choice, and the problem of money in politics would disappear. Disclosure only lets us report on the status quo — it does not let us change it. For almost 30 years we have had disclosure laws in Maine, and they have allowed us to document the increased costs of campaigns, and the relatively small elite who give most of this money. Disclosure has shown us that the way we fund elections is anything but democratic.

Even more important, disclosure has helped us understand and document the connection between campaign contributions and legislation in Augusta. For disclosure to work, there needs to be another way to run for office.

When we voters went to the polls in 1996, we made a commitment to changing the status quo.

Our new system offers an alternative to the privately funded elections of today and all their well-documented drawbacks. Starting in the year 2000, candidates who demonstrate strong grassroots support in their districts and agree to strict spending limits will be able to run a competitive race for state Legislature without doing the money chase. They'll receive Clean Elections funds in an amount appropriate to their race and will be free to campaign by talking and listening to people in their district, instead of dialing for dollars. Campaigns will

be about earning votes, not raising money. In 2002, candidates for governor will have the same option.

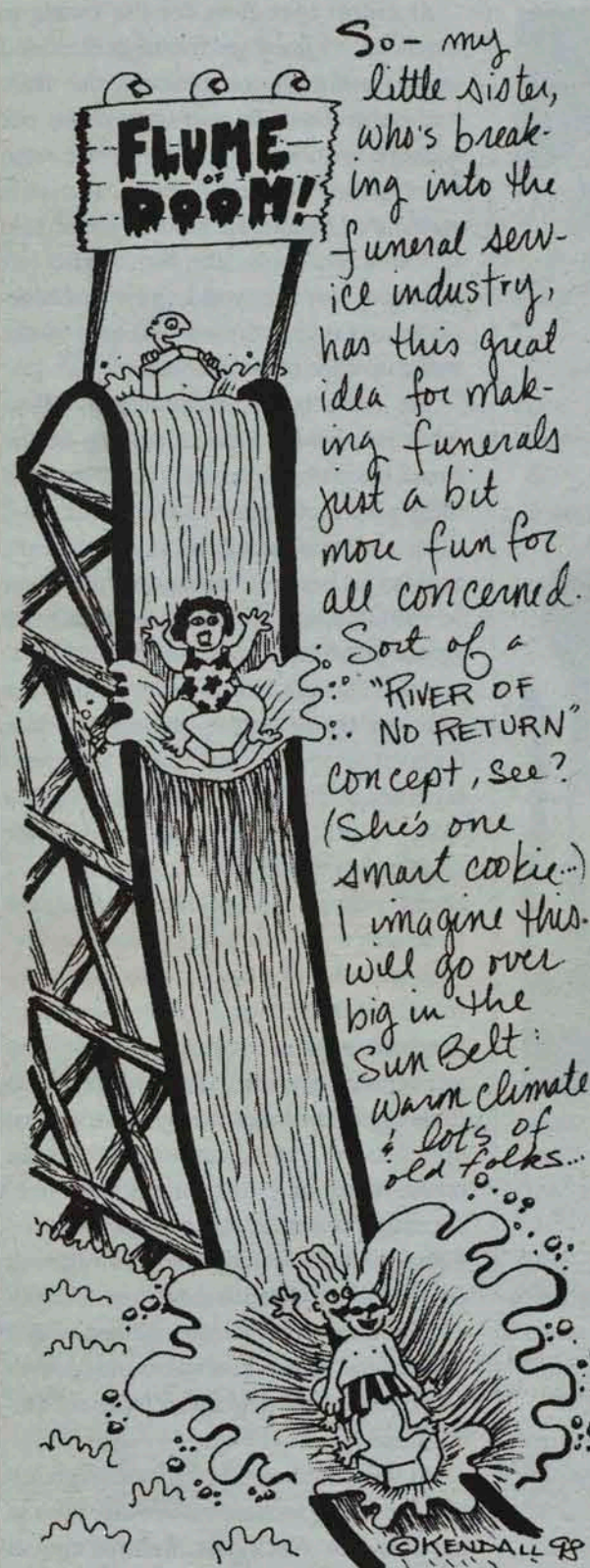
Since its enactment, the state has taken every step necessary to implement the Clean Elections Act. Funding is in place, rulemaking is in progress and all the necessary logistics are being put into place for 2000. When faced with several legal challenges, the state responded with a vigorous and effective defense.

Maine citizens have done their part as well. Mainers have earmarked over \$250,000 for the Clean Elections fund, including contributions from a new tax form check-off. Many citizens have participated in the rulemaking process. Maine Citizens for Clean Elections, the coalition that shepherded the bill through the referendum process, continues to play an active role in promoting Clean Elections and watchdogging the implementation.

Ed Muskie once said that campaign finance reform is not for the short-winded, and he was right. We must meet all challenges with the same unequivocal response we've seen so far. The Clean Elections Act creates many opportunities to invigorate democracy in the years and months ahead through an improved political process. It's up to the people of Maine to make good on the law's promises — and we're off to a terrific start.

Alison Smith of Portland is the campaign finance chair for the League of Women Voters of Maine and co-chair of Maine Citizens for Clean Elections.

crawlspace



CBWQ

I'm new to town, and looking for a job in advertising. At two interviews, company representatives bragged about their "brodies." They acted like I should be impressed, so I was embarrassed to ask what a brodie was. I don't want to sign my name in case I interview with you, and you start talking about your brodie.

According to our dictionary, "brodie" is slang for a flop or mistake. The term also applies to suicidal leaps, and is sometimes used to describe a 360-degree skidding turn in a car. ("We got away from the cops by pullin' a brodie.") Somewhat, we don't think any of those definitions apply in this case. In southern Maine advertising circles, "brodie" is the nickname for a Broderick Award, an honor bestowed every 18 months by the Advertising Club of Greater Portland on the best locally produced broadcast commercials, print ads and other marketing paraphernalia. The Brodies are named for Dick Broderick, a Portland advertising executive who died in 1972.

If you want to brag about your own Brodies, the deadline for submissions for the 20th-anniversary awards show in 1999 is coming up this fall. Contact Kim Laramy at Creative Design & Marketing (774-7528) for more info.

Got a burning question about life in Greater Portland? Let *CBW*'s crack investigative squad sort it out for you. Those whose questions are selected for publication will receive a complimentary SPAM® refrigerator magnet. *CBW* Q, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, or by fax: 775-1615.

LETTERS



Casco Bay Weekly welcomes your letters. Please keep your thoughts to less than 300 words (longer letters may be edited for space reasons), and include your address and daytime phone number. Letters, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 or via e-mail: editor@cbw.maine.com.

For the love of "Michael"

I've had a lifelong love affair with Portland's public sculpture, so I was delighted by your recent review of the subject ("Outdoor art," 7.30.98).

The criticism, both positive and negative, seemed exactly right, despite the argument that can be made about subjectivity. But, I can't let one big exception go by unnoticed. The writer took something of an idiot's delight (just an expression, not to be taken to heart) in not understanding — and, therefore, not liking — "Michael," the sculpture that sits on the lawn between One and Two City Center. This is an unfortunate position in light of the piece's extraordinary history.

"Michael" was built by students at a Portland vocational technical high school during the '70s under the guidance of the artist, John Raimondi, who was teaching welding and art with funds provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the second grant of its kind ever made. (Raimondi is now a highly regarded sculptor of international renown whose public work sells rapidly for six figures.) But when Canal Bank, which had paid \$10,000 for "Michael," tried to give the finished product to the city of Portland, the City Council also displayed an idiot's delight and really didn't want it — until the students, with far more eloquence and with far more insight than those of us at the meeting to support them could have displayed, spoke about their experience of building a work of art. It was apparent that they had learned a great deal about the tools of the trade and about what art is — in particular what "Michael" meant to them practically as well as metaphorically. I can't imagine a more successful grant by the Endowment. These teenagers "got it," so I'm sorry your writer didn't.

One more related item. The plaque for "Michael," which reads "So our children will know the difference," refers to that between the sculpture and the Parisian-style telephone booth that once graced the corner opposite the one on which "Michael" stands. How the phrase was first used and then became written in bronze is an amusing story involving city planning and architectural pomposity, but it's something of a secret that is best left as such for now.

Robert Elowitz
Portland

Spinning the numbers

Other than "Ride the bus to reduce pollution," I'm not sure what "Spinning wheels" (7.23.98) was trying to say. I perceive a trend in several recent *CBW* feature articles of reporting only part of a story, placing someone else's spin on the story or just very poor reporting. Sarah Goodyear, with her background, should know better!

Guilty — the last time I rode a bus was 15 or 20 years ago. It was upon returning to Portland on a People's Express \$29 round-trip from Newark Airport. At that time, it was almost impossible to find out where the bus stop was located and how much the fare would be before the bus arrived. Has anything changed?

Sarah has bought into Metro's "spin" of confusing

people with ridership. Ridership is in reality passenger trips. She writes, "In 1976, 3,626,398 people took trips on Metro" and says ridership dropped to 1,163,130 in 1997. There are only approximately 1.25 million people in the whole state of Maine, most of whom have never been on a Metro bus.

An example: Sally and Sam live together on outer Forest Avenue and work together downtown. They ride the bus because they have no car. On this day, they go from home to work. After work, they jump on the bus to visit a friend on Munjoy Hill for a while. Then they take a bus back downtown, where they transfer to the Forest Avenue bus. They get off at the supermarket on the way home to shop. After shopping, they hop on another bus to complete the trip home. This is two people who so far on this day have made 10 passenger trips.

The article begs a couple of questions. Does Sarah Goodyear ever ride the bus? Does anyone at Metro, other than the drivers, ever use the buses? How many different people actually use the bus system? I have never been able to get any form of an answer to this last question, for that is the real bottom line for any public transportation system.

By the way, the sidebar on the Zoom bus between Biddeford and Portland was excellent. It pointed out both the advantages and disadvantages (such as those to Nissen's bakery employees) of using this particular bus route. The sidebar gave the schedule, the trip travel time and the cost. It also pointed out that a person could use their travel time to accomplish other tasks.

Robert Hains
Portland

A law for kids

As a social worker with 15 years' experience of working with adolescents and their families, Laura Conaway's "Have you seen my brother?" story (7.2.98) struck an all-too-familiar chord.

For the past five years, I have had the privilege to work in a program for high school students with mental illness. Though Conaway's brother may not fit this category, her frustration with "the system" is shared by families who feel that they are held responsible for their child's well-being, yet are powerless to fulfill their obligation when their child makes poor or even dangerous decisions.

I understand the opposition to Children in Need of Services (CHINS) legislation. However, I worked in Massachusetts, where a CHINS law does exist, and I believe that it can be used effectively to keep youth safer and healthier. Yes, runaways most often have significant reasons for leaving home and they should not be treated like criminals for choosing the streets over an abusive home. But they should be able to receive treatment and services by trained and caring professionals.

I remember one young woman who saw me when I worked as a mental health clinician. Despite being homeless, she knew she needed emotional support. Unfortunately, our work never went very far because of barriers such as lack of transportation and money. If a CHINS law had existed, she would have been in the custody of the Department of Human Services, and would have received more comprehensive services. I sigh to think of how her life has probably turned out.

Pat McCormick

Pat McCormick
Topsham

WCYW whistling in the graveyard? The latest Arbitron rating for Greater Portland radio stations was released Aug. 6, and shows **WCYY sinking fast.** The modern rock broadcaster dropped two percentage points — the biggest loss by any station — in the survey conducted last spring. WCYY fell from fifth place to eighth, finishing behind both WYNZ (oldies) and WLAM (music for the nearly dead). WCYY's sister station, WBLM, again topped the field with its classic rock, but the Blimp lost almost one rating point. WPOR (country) was second, followed by WJBO (top 40), WMGX (classic rock), WGAN (talk), WLAM, WYNZ, WCYY, WHOM (elevator music), WTHH (country) and WCLZ (jazz, folk, blues and other marginal musics). Overall, Saga Communications (WPOR, WMGX, WGAN, WYNZ) and Fuller-Jeffrey Broadcasting (WBLM, WJBO, WCYY, WHOM, WCLZ) continue to dominate the market. Two-thirds of all listeners were tuned to a station controlled by one of the two conglomerates.

■ **Graves among the graves?** During the week of August 3, three separate sources told us they'd heard that actor **Peter Graves** was wandering through **Western Cemetery in Portland.** Was Graves, of TV's "Mission Impossible" and numerous B-movies in which he played second fiddle to giant locusts and hydrocephalic aliens, scouting locations for some kind of body-snatcher flick? Was he cruising the area in a reprise of his role as the perverted pilot in "Airplane"? Apparently not. Although none of our sources actually saw Graves themselves, rumor had it he was searching for the final resting place of either his grandfather, great-grandfather or great-great-grandfather.

■ **Brain-dead on geography:** An article in the August edition of *MaineBiz* describes Bangor's Eastern Maine Medical Center as "a huge complex on a bluff overlooking the Kennebec River." That must be one heck of a huge complex, since the Kennebec flows from Piscataquis County through Augusta, never passing within 50 miles of the hospital. The damp area near the hospital is probably the Penobscot River.

■ **Haunting the Old Port:** A middle-aged woman walked along Fore Street Aug. 8, carrying a hand-lettered poster topped by the name of **Portland Police Chief Mike Chitwood.** Saturday night revelers, moving from one watering hole to the next, brushed drunkenly past. They squinted at her rambling message, which had something to do with Chitwood's membership on a nonprofit organization's board of directors and an accusation — not against Chitwood — of "elder abuse." The woman said she'd included the chief's name mostly as a way to draw attention to her cause. Reaction from the passers-by? Said one, "I think she's protesting bars."

CBW

edge

HOLLERIN' COUNTRY — SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK — RELAXING IN VACATIONLAND — REVISIONIST THINKING — NEGOTIATE THIS



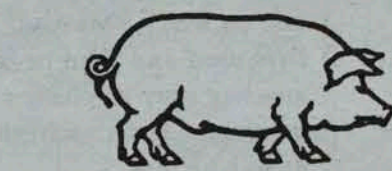
ILLUSTRATION/JEFFREY CLIFFORD

On top of Old Smoky Three barbecue wranglers stake a claim to Portland's Munjoy Hill

PAT SIMS

Fires are burning on Munjoy Hill, but no one is racing to put them out. In fact, three restaurateurs in this working-class neighborhood of Portland are adding fuel to the flames. Each has a vested interest in the fine art of Southern barbecue, a cuisine close to their hearts if not their Yankee roots.

Despite the closeness of their quarters in and around the Hill, the men maintain a more-the-merrier attitude. "I think the rivalry thing gets made up by people who aren't in the business," says Norm Jabar of Norm's Barbecue. Bob Ballou of BBQ Bob's concurs, "We've all found our niche." Jonathan St. Laurent of Uncle Billy's agrees and looks forward to the time when the East End is where people naturally head when the barbecue urge hits, where customers will move on to "the next guy's place" if the first spot proves too crowded.



To achieve the sublime in barbecue generally requires some kind of slow circulation of smoke through meat. The miracle can be performed on beef or pork or lamb, seafood or wild game that is dry-rubbed with spices or soaked in sauce. Though specific styles are attributed to Memphis, Texas and the Carolinas, many hybrids exist.

"They always come in my place and say, 'What kind of barbecue you got?' and I always say, 'It's Norm's barbecue,'" says Jabar, owner of the Middle Street restaurant. Though St. Laurent of Uncle Billy's claims to be the man who introduced barbecue to Maine, it was Jabar who, in 1995, brought ribs and pulled pork to Munjoy Hill.

It didn't take long for the locals to catch on. "I grew up in South Portland and as a kid you're thinking, this little half-horse town. So you want to get out of here, you know," says Jabar, who lived in Boston for 11 years. "But after you move away you kind of appreciate it." It was people like him—who left Portland, saw the world, grew barbecue-savvy and then returned—who he thinks make up a lot of his clientele.

He also attracted customers by filling what he saw as a yawning gap in the local restaurant scene. "In Portland there's a lot of high-end places and then there's a lot of shit," he says. "There's nothing in between where you just want to spend 10 bucks or something and still go out and have a good time."

Jabar doesn't follow recipes but cooks in a variety of ways—Memphis style, Carolina style, his own personal favorites. "I just try to keep it simple," he says. "Nothing real complicated." He smokes his meats on the premises and cooks them on a gas grill because he likes to be able to control his temperatures.

A recent lunch began with big crusty rounds of fried onion sprinkled with pepper, coarse-grained salt and parsley — an appetizer so potentially addictive it threatened to render the rest of the meal unnecessary. Tasty beef brisket followed on an onion roll with pickles and thinly sliced red onion accompanied by crispy noodle-thick slices of cabbage in coleslaw. Broiled barbecued catfish arrived flaky and delicate, rubbed with a mixture of spices and surrounded with black beans and rice and a fresh cucumber salad.

At varnished wood picnic tables, family-style setups include silverware, piles of napkins and Wet Naps. Patrons can sit down to such barbecued items as chicken, spareribs and brisket, as well as cornbread, coleslaw, fried chicken, a barbecued duck salad, peanut noodles and a full tapas menu.

Even with this variety, can Munjoy Hill attract the customers necessary to keep three barbecue establishments up and running? "I think variety, people having choice, is good for everybody," says Jabar. "Keeps you on your toes."



In front of BBQ Bob's, painted flames lick the plate-glass windows while out back, where he keeps his barrel cookers,

chef and co-owner Ballou is tending the real fires, slow-cooking his prize-winning barbecue.

"To me, barbecue's a beautiful thing," says the Lewiston native. And in his compact quarters, he tries to keep it simple. "We don't go all over the road, we're not doing fried foods, we're not doing Mexican food, we're not doing vegetarian."

Since opening his business in July in the space formerly occupied by Silly's on Cumberland Avenue, Ballou has prepared everything himself. He borrows barbecuing techniques from Texas, Memphis and the Carolinas, in an effort to achieve "the best available barbecue that I possibly can in the old Southern tradition — everything slow-smoked, dry-rubbed and then finished off with a mysterious baste."

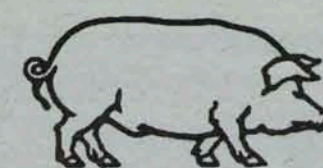
All the food in his cozy red-and-yellow storefront diner has been made from scratch, with the exception of the pickles and Izzy's Cheesecake. Each order is carefully built from the plate up, a piece of waxed paper laid on top, followed by a pickle and, for barbecue sandwiches, the simplest of buns. A bigger, more elaborate bun would be distracting. "The only role of bread in barbecue," Ballou says, "is to give you something to hold onto."

At one lunch, BBQ Bob's served barbecued chicken with a tangy maple jalapeño sauce, generous squares of cornbread, coleslaw dotted with caraway seeds and a nicely eggy potato salad laced with vinegar. A meltingly tender pork sandwich was richly infused with the flavors of smoke and traditional pit-style Southern barbecue.

"We get a lot of people from down South," says Ballou. "They're dying for this stuff." His clientele also includes "professional people, groups from businesses, bikers, people with alternative lifestyles, people that don't speak English, you name it."

He is proud of the fact that diners can see right into his immaculate kitchen. "There's not that mystery of, is there like some wine cooking back there?" he says. "No, this is Barbecue Bob, right here, eighty hours a week."

Along with tending to the beef brisket, the pork spareribs, heat wave chili and sausage, Ballou manages to keep his counter help and customers entertained. "He's quite a showman," claims his business partner, pharmacist Chris Guido. "You don't need teeth to eat our beef," pipes up Ballou from the heat of the kitchen.



A July afternoon is winding down, and Uncle Billy's on Newbury Street is gearing up for a big night of barbecue. "Rock Lobster" is playing on the jukebox, groups of patrons are being seated at the long communal tables and chef/owner St. Laurent has just sent out a morsel of smoked beef brisket for a customer to sample.

The low, cavelike room has a clubhouse feel in which memories of Elvis past (at least one presented charmingly on velvet) vie for attention with bovine novelty lights, a disco ball and a translucent pig head doing double duty as a lamp shade. Embedded in the back wall, a TV screen frames a corner of the action going on in the kitchen.

When dinner comes, it consists of succulent roasted pork shoulder — chopped, smoked and pulled — and a sweetly smoky barbecued chicken nudged up against a cascade of baked beans, coleslaw and a wedge of moist cornbread. The sweet potato pecan pie topped with whipped cream is a much subtler concoction than its cloyingly sticky relative, the pecan pie.

St. Laurent, who is from Cape Elizabeth, opened the original Uncle Billy's in 1989 in South Portland. That rowdy, successful incarnation lasted for six years, before closing and relocating to Forest Avenue in Portland, as upscale Uptown Billy's, where St. Laurent was employed as chef and consultant. After that restaurant shut, St. Laurent began scouting out new locations for an old idea. He found the ideal place next door to the historic Abyssinian Congregational Meeting House and across from the Shipyard Brewery.

While St. Laurent holds fast to the slow-cooking, smoke-infused method when preparing his traditional barbecue, he is nonetheless always on the lookout for alternate cooking experiences as well—Scandinavian-style salmon, gumbo and jambalayas, an improbable-sounding barbecued spaghetti. The menu is constantly being refined: fried okra out, fried sweet potatoes in. A Thai prawn dish made recently by his wife, Schyla Jean, has him talking about exploring that country's barbecue.

Beyond the thrill of culinary adventures, St. Laurent's joy of cooking has one foot in the kitchen, one on stage. He likes working in the back, offering them a taste of what he's cooking. Says St. Laurent, "That's the beautiful thing about being the chef. I'd be in the theater if I wasn't doing this." CBW

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calendar

thursday 13 thursday 13

BEACH OLYMPICS

So you've spent the summer lying prone on the sand reading the same page of "War and Peace" over and over again. The time has come for action. The good news is you can still hit the beach - Old Orchard Beach - where Maine Special Olympics holds its fun-filled fundraiser, the Beach Olympics. Compete in volleyball, bubble gum blowing, the kangaroo race, the bat-a-way and various other semi-sporty activities. And when you're too sunstroked to go on, catch a performance by the Coast Guard Color Guard March, Rick Charette and Inca Son. Afterwards you can help polish off Maine's biggest ice cream sundae. Cost: \$3-\$5. The Beach Olympics run through Aug. 16 at various times and locations in Old Orchard Beach. For a schedule, call 934-2500.

"THE ART OF PASSION"

Maine's sandy coastline is the backdrop for "The Art of Passion," a show of black-and-white photographs by husband-and-wife team Nancy and Matthew Sleeth. The exhibit is dedicated to Nancy's brother, AIDS activist Richard Krampf, who drowned three years ago. He lived a passionate life, says Sleeth, "always pushing the boundaries of convention. We want to honor his love of beauty - and life - with these images." Join the Sleeths for their opening shindig at Maine Photo Co-Op, 100 Oak St., Portland, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Proceeds from the sale of photos benefit the Whitman-Walker Clinic's Richard Krampf Activity Fund, a nonprofit organization helping people with HIV and AIDS. "The Art of Passion" shows through Aug. 27. 774-1900.

friday 14 friday 14

THE ROBERT CRAY BAND

Bluesman Robert Cray doesn't waste his summers on the beach. He's too busy bringing his music to the people. This time around, Cray tours in support of his latest album, "Sweet Potato Pie," a collection of original songs that harkens back to the mid-'60s and early '70s when R&B dominated the charts. Cray may be channeling the likes of Otis Redding and O.V. Wright for his latest work, but it still bears the distinctive Cray touch. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$25.50-\$28.50. 842-0800.

All-star cast: Ever-eloquent songstress Lisa Germano joins in "The Suffragette Sessions" Aug. 19 at The State Theatre.

saturday 15 saturday 15

SPRING POINT FAMILY FESTIVAL

It's just like a day at the beach, except without the sand. The Spring Point Family Festival promises hours of good, clean family entertainment, including a 5K road race at 8:30 a.m., a pancake breakfast from 8-10 a.m. and a parade at 9:15 a.m. with pony rides and kids' games. Maine's folk fogies Schooner Fare offer a soundtrack along with the Royal River Philharmonic Jazz Band, Marcus the Music Man, the Wicked Good Band and the Rockit Band. For the fleet-footed there's square dancing, line dancing and gymnastics. On the athletic field at Southern Maine Technical College, South Portland, from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. 773-0485.

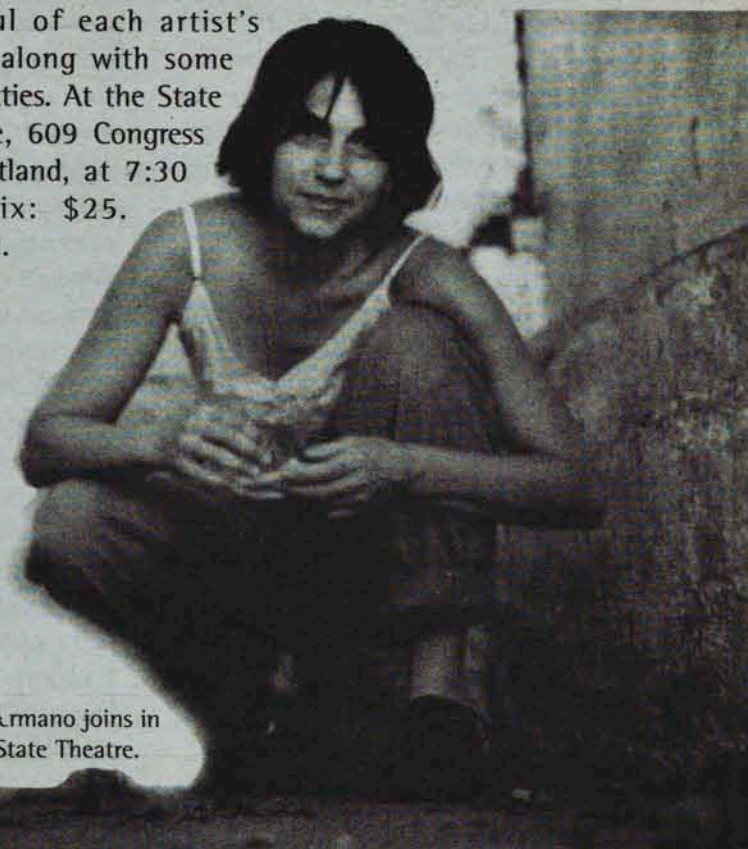
wednesday 19 wednesday 19

AN EVENING WITH CHARLES FRAZIER

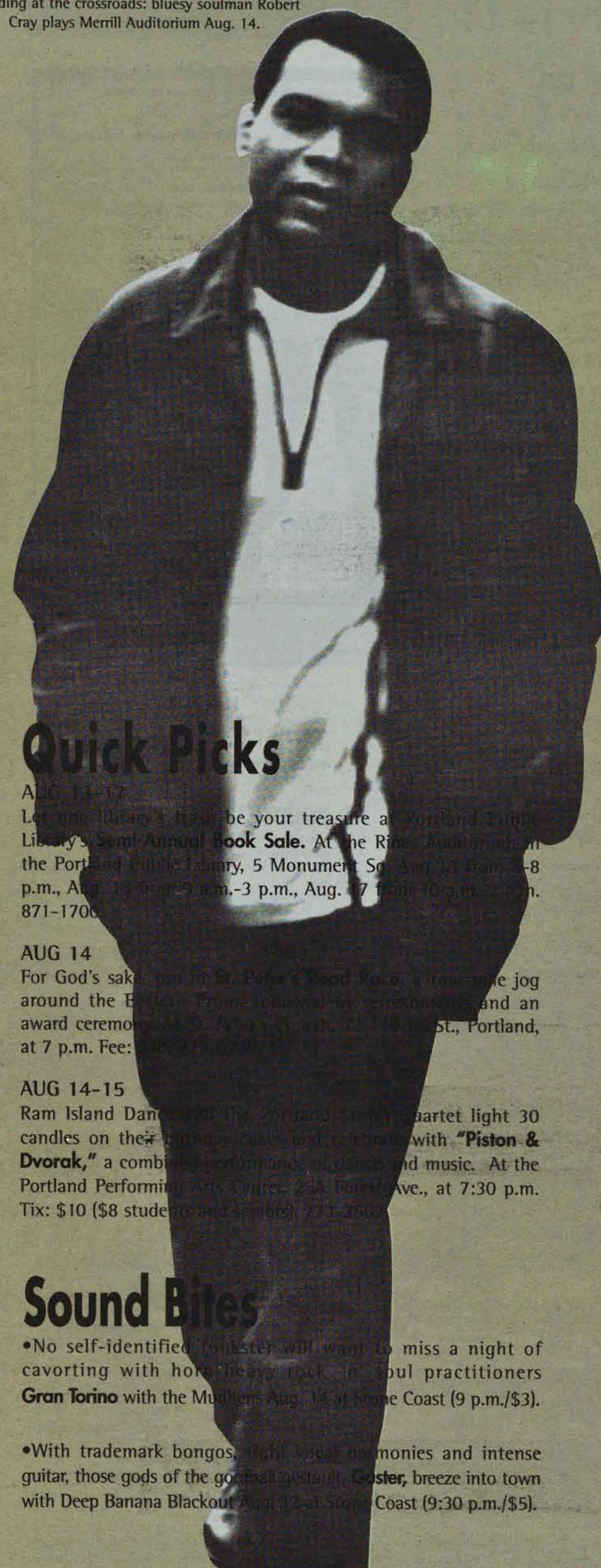
Part adventure, part love story, part homage to an America that no longer exists, Charles Frazier's "Cold Mountain" - the story of a Civil War veteran finding his way back home - is the perfect book to replace "War and Peace" in your beach bag. And since it's already been declared a masterpiece, you'll finally be able to say you're well-read. Give yourself something else to brag about - hear Frazier read from his novel at the First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland, from 7-9 p.m. Free. If you're lucky, he might autograph your copy. 871-1700.

"THE SUFFRAGETTE SESSIONS"

More all-star jam session than summer package tour, "The Suffragette Sessions" - brainchild of The Indigo Girls - offers a lineup including Tears For Fears' Gail Ann Dorsey, Kate Schellenbach of Luscious Jackson, The Breeders' Josephine Wiggs, Thalia Zedek of Come, Heart's Ann Wilson, Jane Siberry, Lourdes Perez and baby-voiced gem Lisa Germano. This stellar cast of ladies tackles a handful of each artist's songs, along with some new ditties. At the State Theatre, 609 Congress St., Portland, at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$25. 775-3331.



Standing at the crossroads: bluesy soulman Robert Cray plays Merrill Auditorium Aug. 14.



Submissions for the calendar must be received in writing by the Thursday two weeks prior to publication. Send your calendar listings to Allen Dammann, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

Quick Picks

AUG 13-17
Let your library's shelves be your treasure at Portland Public Library's Semi-Annual Book Sale. At the River Auditorium at the Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Square, from 9-8 p.m., Aug. 13, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Aug. 17 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 871-1700.

AUG 14

For God's sake, join St. Peter's Band, 1000 Main St., in a jog around the Block. The band will play music and an award ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. Fee: \$10. 774-1900.

AUG 14-15

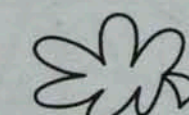
Ram Island Dance Band will play a quartet light 30 candles on their birthday cake and celebrate with "Piston & Dvorak," a combining of jazz, blues and music. At the Portland Performing Arts Center, 23A Forest Ave., at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$10 (\$8 student and seniors). 774-2562.

Sound Bites

•No self-identified minimalist will want to miss a night of cavorting with homegrown rock-inclined practitioners **Gnar Torino** with the Mudlens Aug. 14 at Stone Coast (9 p.m./\$5).

•With trademark bongos, tight beat harmonies and intense guitar, those gods of the gourd **Castor**, breeze into town with Deep Banana Blackout Aug. 12 at Stone Coast (9:30 p.m./\$5).

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Friday, August 14, 8:00pm
The Robert Cray Band
Tuesday, August 18, 7:30 pm w/ Peter Conte
Tuesday, August 25, 7:30 pm w/ Douglas Major

For tickets or ticket information, please call the PortTix Box Office at (207) 842-0800. PortTix is open Monday through Saturday, from noon to 6:00 PM. Events are subject to change. For additional information call the Public Assembly Facilities Division, City of Portland, (207) 874-8200.

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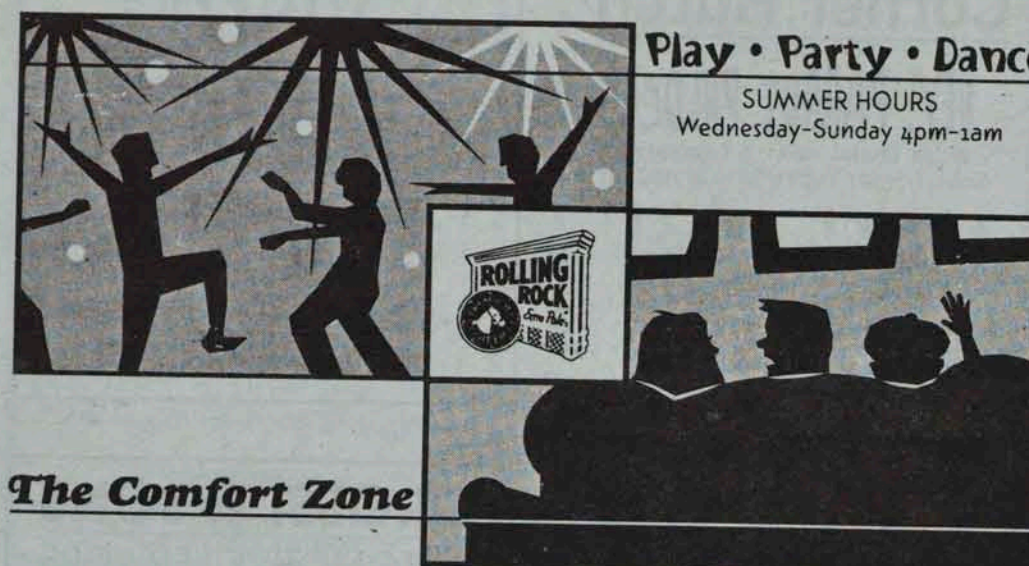
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clubs

Prime cut

Mike Ireland and his trio, Holler, are rapidly becoming the golden boys of the alternative country scene. Ireland's flair for integrating traditional country elements with his own individual cutting-edge touches has earned him raves from the L.A. Times and People magazine. Vocally easygoing and natural, Ireland and Holler insert new ideas into classic formats like string band music and the ballad with surprisingly rich effect. **Mike Ireland and Holler** play Aug 15 at Stone Coast, 14 York St, Portland, at 9 pm. Diesel Doug and the Long Haul Truckers open. Tix: \$3. 773-2337.



Thursday 13

The Basement
Hubinger Street (9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Big Easy
Frankie Lee (blues/9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Bitter End
PCT (alt rock/9 pm/no cover)

Club 100
The DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/ladies' night)

The Comedy Connection
Lenny Clark (8:30 pm/\$10)

Commercial Street Pub
Karaoke (9 pm/no cover)

Free Street Taverna
Heusen and Wonderhead (10 pm/no cover)

Gilligan's Tiki Bar
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

Joe's Landing
The Sean Mencher Swing Combo (30s and 40s style swing/6-9 pm/no cover)

Old Port Tavern
Blackout (alt rock/10 pm/no cover)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey (cove-ers/5-8 pm/no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Ken Ginsley and Friends (classic rock)

Sisters
Dancing (8 pm/no cover)

Somewhere
Touched (piano/9 pm/midnight/no cover)

Squire Morgan's
Acoustic duo (9 pm/no cover)

Stone Coast Brewing Company
Conehead Buddha and the Gordon Stone Trio (9 pm/\$4; Concert Karaoke with Greg Powers (9:30 pm)/downstairs (no cover)

The Underground
DJ Bob Look's All Request Night (70s, 80s and 90s dance hits/cover T.B.A.)

Zootz
House Nation launch party (DJ Joe Bermudez spins house music/9 pm-1 am/no cover)

Friday 14

Asylum
DJ Steady (hip-hop & R&B/9 pm-2 am/\$3)

The Basement
Broken Down, Colepitz and Tribal Iris (9:30 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Big Easy
The Tony Lynn Washington Band (blues/9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Bitter End
There (9 pm/\$1)

Brian Boni
Rakish Paddy (traditional Irish/9 pm)

Club 100
The DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/no cover)

The Comedy Connection
Lenny Clark (8:30 and 9:45 pm/\$10)

Free Street Taverna
The Mike Jones Trio (rock/10 pm/\$3)

Gene's
3 More Bullets and Surprise (9:30 pm/\$4)

Gilligan's Tiki Bar
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

The Industry
College Night (DJ Jayce spins hip-hop, R&B and dance/18+ 10 pm-3 am/21+, \$3/18+, \$5)

Joe's Landing
Schmidt and Trout (acoustic/6-9 pm/no cover)

Metropolis
Chem-free party with DJ Thunder (hip-hop and Top 40/9 pm-1 am/\$6; Synergy in Room: two with guest DJs (house, trance, techno/9:30 pm-7 am/\$6)

Old Port Tavern
Blackout (alt rock/10 pm/no cover)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey (5-8 pm/no cover)

The Seamen's Club
The Red Light Revue (R&B/9 pm/no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Candice (9 pm/no cover)

Sisters
Dancing (70s, 80s and 90s dance hits/8 pm/no cover)

Somewhere

Joe Villani (piano/8 pm-1 am/no cover)

Stone Coast Brewing Company
The Mudhens and Gran Torino (9:30 pm/\$3)

The Underground
Andy's Weekend Party

Verrillo's
Call ahead (Top 40/9 pm-1 am/no cover)

Zootz
Urban Dance with DJ Moshé and DJ Nicotine (hip-hop, trip-hop, house and acid jazz/9 pm-1 am/\$3 after 11 pm)

Club 100
The DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/no cover)

Metropolis
70s, 80s and 90s dance night (Top 40 dance mix/9 pm-4 am/18+ from 1-4 am/ladies night/men pay \$3)

Old Port Tavern
Blackout (alt rock/10 pm/no cover)

O'Rourke's
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

The Pavilion
DJ Shane Staples (Top 40 dance hits/\$3)

Pete and Larry's
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

Sisters
Dancing (Top 40/8 pm/\$3 after 9 pm)

Somewhere
Joe Villani (piano/8 pm-1 am/no cover)

Stone Coast
Mike Ireland and Holler and Diesel Doug and the Long Haul Truckers (9 pm/\$3)

The Underground
Andy's Weekend Party

Verrillo's
Call ahead (Top 40/9 pm-1 am/no cover)

Zootz
Decades of Dance (DJ FK One spins 70s, 80s, 90s dance music/9 pm-3 am/\$3 after 11 pm/all-ages after 1:15 am)

Club 100
The DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/no cover)

The Comedy Connection
Lenny Clark (8 and 9:45 pm/\$10)

Gene's
Targish and Interstellar Policeman (9:30 pm/\$4)

Gilligan's Tiki Bar
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

The Industry
DJ Mix spins Top 40, hip-hop and techno (18+/10 pm-3 am/21+, \$3/18+, \$6)

Joe's Landing
Jenny Woodman (1-5 pm); Jeff Krumler (folk/6-9 pm)

the next BIG things

Tree
Asylum, 8/21

Sonia Dada
Stone Coast, 8/22

DJ Dirty Harry
Asylum, 8/22

The Tragically Hip
State Theatre, 8/28

Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown
Asylum, 8/28

The Connells
Stone Coast, 8/29

The Cowboy Junkies
Merrill Auditorium, 9/16

Bill Cosby
Merrill Auditorium, 9/26

Old Port Tavern
DJ Dancin' Don Coman (10 pm/no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Candice (9 pm/no cover)

The Underground
DJ Colin spins and Karaoke with Stormy Norman (9 pm/close)

Zootz
Free Fall Sunday with DJ Moshé (hip-hop/9 pm-1 am/\$3 after 11 pm)

Gitty McHugh's
The Pipers (8 pm/midnight/no cover)

Old Port Tavern
Old Port dance night with Dancin' Don Coman (10 pm/no cover)

Somewhere
Karaoke with Larry & Larry (9 pm-1 am)

Stone Coast
Chronic Funk (10 pm/\$1)

Monday 17

The Basement
420 PA Grass Hop with Conehead Buddha (9:30 pm/no cover/\$5 includes The Bitter End and Stone Coast)

The Bitter End
420 PA Grass Hop with the Jake Miller Band and Walking Bird jam rock/\$5 includes The Basement and Stone Coast

Free Street Taverna
Open mic with Steady Bill Weevil (10 pm/no cover)

Joe's Landing
Brass Quintet of the Community Orchestra of the Portland Symphony (6-9 pm)

Old Port Tavern
DJ Dancin' Don Coman (10 pm/no cover)

Stone Coast
420 PA Grass Hop with Snodden Grass, Guster and Deep Banana Blackout (9:30 pm/\$5 includes The Basement and The Bitter End/all-ages)

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Open mic with Steady Bill Weevil (10 pm/no cover)

Joe's Landing
Brass Quintet of the Community Orchestra of the Portland Symphony (6-9 pm)

Old Port Tavern
DJ Dancin' Don Coman (10 pm/no cover)

Stone Coast
420 PA Grass Hop with Snodden Grass, Guster and Deep Banana Blackout (9:30 pm/\$5 includes The Basement and The Bitter End/all-ages)

Free Street Taverna
Open mic with Steady Bill Weevil (10 pm/no cover)

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Wednesday 18

Asylum
Rock, top and swing dance night (8 pm/no cover)

The Basement
Doug Emery CD release party (9:30 pm/no cover)

The Big Easy
E.C. Scott (blues/8 pm/no cover)

The Bitter End
Call ahead

Heads U Win
Mark and Patty Miller (blues/8 pm/no cover)

Old Port Tavern
Karaoke talent contest with DJ Dancin' Don (10 pm/no cover)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey (5-8 pm/no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Candice (9 pm/no cover)

Sisters
R&B dancing (9 pm/no cover)

Stone Coast
The Outspace Band (9 pm/\$7)

The Underground
DJ Colin spins (10 pm/close)

Zootz
Open mic with Electric Tigers (9 pm-1 am/no cover)

Tuesday 18

The Big Easy
E.C. Scott (blues/8 pm/no cover)

Commercial Street Pub
Acoustic open mic (9 pm/no cover)

Free Street Taverna
Acoustic open mic (9 pm/no cover)

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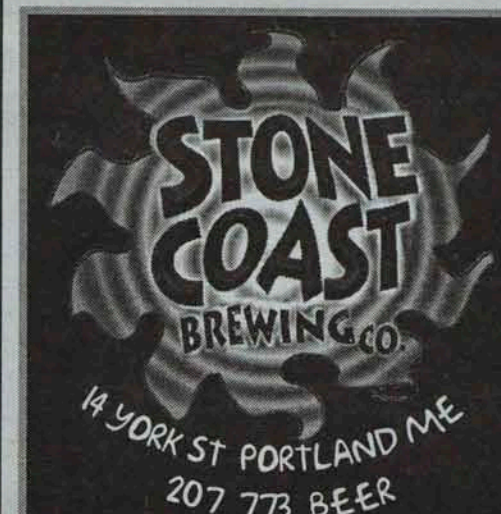
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Acoustic open mic (9 pm/no cover)



thru 8/13
Conehead Buddha
Gordon Stone Trio

fri 8/14
MUDHENS
w/Gran Torino

sat 8/15
Deisel Doug
+the Longhaul Truckers
w/Mike Ireland & Holler

mon 8/17
20 GRASS HOP
6 bands, 3 clubs, 5 bucks
1 great beer
Guster
Deep Banana Blackout & Smokin' Grass

tue 8/18
Chronic Funk
\$1 cover/\$1 drafts

wed 8/19
Outerspace Band

thu 8/20
Mustard Plug
all ages

fri 8/21



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\$1.50 Shipyard Draft 5-11pm

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buffet from 5-9. Live music
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UPCOMING



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AUG 21: 21+ \$5
TREE
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AUG 22:
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nocturnal

EMISSIONS

■ ZOË S. MILLER

Vodka under the bridge

I was already suited up and ready to head out for a weeknight drink when my roommates informed we were meeting some friends at Brian Boru. I paused for a second, reconsidering the idea of going out at all. "Really?" I asked, my nose scrunching up. They wanted to hang out on the deck at the Boru, they said, because of the heat. My body tightening with uneasiness, I reluctantly agreed.

I have friends who refuse to go to Zootz, others who pitch a fit if they come within 10 feet of The Penguin, but despite my sometimes bitchy rantings in this column, I've never put a ban on a specific bar. Of course, those rantings — or more appropriately, the fallout that ensued — have made certain watering holes about as inviting as a visit to my dentist's office when I have a cavity. And so it was with shaky hands and fire in my chest that I returned to Brian Boru — the Irish-style pub I scorned April 9 by sourly disdaining their Saturday night carryings-on.

Out on the moonlit deck, I sat listless on a wooden bench waiting for the moment when someone would approach me angrily. "Zoë Miller?" they'd ask incredulously. "Zoë ess Miller!?" My face would turn beet red and I'd launch into a muddled explanation: I really am a nice person. I sometimes try to be funny and it doesn't go over well. I myself am Irish and have nothing against drunken cavorting. But as I sat stiffly in the summer air, surrounded by my troop of carousing pals, it hit me: Nobody cared that Zoë S. Miller was at the Boru. There would be no moment of discovery and disgrace. No shameful departure. The folks flanking the deck at the little red building on Center Street didn't know who I was and probably wouldn't give a shit anyway.

Suddenly, I was light with liberty. My breath came more easily and I settled back into my chair. Brian Boru would no longer be a dark alley in my mind — a place to avoid for fear of harm to my pride and personage. I could appreciate its friendly charm again (though I'm still not going anywhere near there on Saturday night) and wade through the sea of bachelors without fearing retribution. OK, so I probably won't become a Boru groupie, but my night there gave me the strength to finally return to Una — the wine bar I dissed Jan. 15 by sourly disdaining their weeknight ambiance and service.

Reentering Una's small, intimate space on Fore Street was a tad more intimidating than returning to Brian Boru. "Don't say my name," I croaked to my companions on the sidewalk outside. But the moment we stepped through the curtained entryway, my cover was blown by a friend at the bar. "Zoë!" he blurted. I froze and scanned the room. Once again, the epiphany hit: Nobody knows who you are, nobody cares, you're being a paranoid, self-absorbed freak! And thank God, because, well, I really like Una. The constraints of Portland's nightlife have put me over the edge lately. Between Zootz ending its loungey Thursday nights right after I discovered how much I liked them and my own overexposure to all my favorite joints, I was about to stay home just to allow time for things to feel new and exciting again.

One night at Una hooked me. To start with, the drinks are killer. (And yes, I was rash for making any judgment of the place without sampling the cocktails.) Now that I've been enraptured by the exquisitely tasty cosmopolitan martini — a sweet lime and cranberry drink with sugar on the rim of its tall, elegant glass — it will take more than an unpleasant confrontation to keep me from returning to Una. The chic hang-out has a gestalt you won't find elsewhere in Portland pubs, clubs and bars. It's like taking a trip to a swankier, more refined city where everything looks cool. Even the music — we were treated to the soothing sounds of Morcheeba's "Big Calm" — complements the atmosphere. You can actually dress up there without looking like you just escaped a wedding reception. This is a major perk for someone who likes to get fancy, because Portland doesn't provide many options.

The trouble (and this is the same mistake I made on my first visit to Una) is that with all the attention to detail and panache, one can get the impression that style equals snobbery. But if you get over the idea that it's "yuppie-ville" (as a more class-conscious friend of mine put it), you'll find Una is rather friendly and inviting.

With any luck, they'll let me back in to try that pomegranate martini I was eyeing.

Zoë S. Miller is leaving her post at CBW, but her bitchy nightlife coverage will continue.



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1. admirably fine or excellent
2. sumptuous; rich, grand

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Performance



centerstage

Some say Shakespeare wrote theater so perfectly, he made it impossible for subsequent playwrights to avoid sounding derivative. No wonder most writers are depressive duds. The Maine Summer Dramatic Institute sticks with the master for its annual fair-weather production: "As You Like It," the Bard's comic tale of a cross-dressing princess and a lot of under-employed woodsmen who used to be kings and courtiers. Twenty young actors, including Amelia Huckel-Bauer as Audrey and Gus Gallagher as Touchstone (pictured above), and a live rock band give life to this story of love, gender, class and coming of age. "As You Like It" runs Aug 13-23 in Deering Oaks Park, Portland. Aug 13-15 and 20-22 at 6:30 pm, Aug 16 and 23 at 2 pm. Free. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic. 828-4887.

dance

Bates Dance Festival
Through Aug 25. The school offers a summer of toe-twirling events. Unless otherwise noted, performances take place at Schaeffer Theatre, Bates College, Lewiston. Aug 13: "Different Voices," new works from around the globe, at 8 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$8 seniors and students). Aug 12: Choreographer's Panel Discussion, at 8 pm. Free. Aug 14 and 15: "Young Choreographers/New Works," original works created by festival students. Fri at 8 pm, Sat at 2 pm. Tix: \$6. Aug 15: "Student Finale," at Alumni Gym, at 8 pm. Tix: \$5 (\$2 kids). 786-6161.

"Piston & Dvorak" Aug 14 and 15. Ram Island Dance and the Portland String Quartet celebrate 30 years with a combined performance of dance and music. At the Portland Performing Arts Center, 25A Forest Ave., at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students and seniors). 773-2562.

music

Anastasia Antonacos Aug 16. The 20-year-old pianist performs works by Bach, Brahms, Schumann and Beethoven at Corthell

Concert Hall, USM campus. Gorham, at 3 pm. Free. 283-0817.

Casco Bay Lines "Music on the Bay" Aug 15: POP, from 2-5 pm. Aug 19: Jenny Woodman. At Casco Bay Lines, 56 Commercial St., Portland, from 8-11 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 advance). 774-7871.

Cathedral Summer Concert Series Through Aug 26. The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception hosts concerts of historical and contemporary classical music. Aug 19: Trumpeter John Schnell. Aug 26: Organist Kevin Birch. At the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 307 Congress St., Portland, at 12:15 pm. Free. 774-1634.

Robert Gray Band Aug 14. The blues musician comes to town on the "Sweet Potato Pie" tour. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$25.50-\$28.50. 842-0800.

Friends of the Ketzschmar Organ Through Aug 27. Various musicians park themselves on the organ seat. Aug 13: Harold Stover, at noon. Free. Aug 18: Peter Conte, at 7:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$5. Aug 25: Douglas Major, at 7:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$5. Aug 27: Ray Cornils, at noon. Free. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland. 842-0800.

Lemonwheel Phish Festival Aug 15 and 16. The band spearheads two days of peace, love and lots of dr—uh, dreams come true. The festival includes on-site camping, food, craftspeople, performers and artists. At the former Long Air Force Base, Limestone. Begins Aug 15 at 10 am. Tix: \$75. 775-3331.

Portland Chamber Music Festival Aug 21: Gala Fifth Anniversary Concert featuring works by Correll and Dvorak and the world premiere of "Shiver," by David Home. Pre-concert discussion with composer David Home at 6:30 pm. Aug 22: "Tradition and Innovation" featuring works by Rossini, Biggs and Mendelssohn. Pre-concert discussion with musicologist Olivia Mattis at 6:30 pm. Aug 25: Master Class. Free and open to the public. Aug 28: "An Evening of French Chamber Music" featuring works by Chausson, Ravel and Faure. Pre-concert discussion with Maine composer Elliot Schwartz at 6:30 pm. Aug 29: "Klezmer and Classical" featuring Golligorsky's "The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind" and a work by Schubert. Pre-concert discussion with composer Osvaid Golligorsky at 6:30 pm. All concerts are at the Theater Project's summer theater festival. Performances are Wed at the Theater Project, 14 School St., Westbrook College Campus.

Stevens Avenue, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$12 adults (\$8 students). Opening night: \$5. Series subscription is \$36 (\$24 students). 800-320-0257.

Steamin' Summer Shows in the Great Outdoors Aug 13: Folk rocker Lynn Deves in Congress Sq., at noon; WMPG's Big Talk with The Pipers in Congress Sq., from 7:30-9:30 pm. Aug 14: Summer Swingout with King Memphis and the Mainiac Swing Dance Society in Congress Sq., at 7 pm. Aug 19: The Cafe Review hosts a poetry reading in Congress Sq., from 7-9 pm. 767-7650 or 772-9012 or 772-6828 or 874-8793.

"The Suffragette Sessions" Aug 19. The Indigo Girls, Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, along with a bevy of guests including Gail Ann Dorsey, Lisa Germano, Kate Schellbach and Ann Wilson, come together for one big jam session. Please, no requests for "Barraconda." At the State Theatre, 609 Congress St., Portland, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$25. 775-3331.

theater

"Boxen" Through Aug 19. The Young Company presents this collection of shorts as part of the Theater Project's summer theater festival. Performances are Wed at the Theater Project, 14 School St., Westbrook College Campus.

Brunswick, at 8 pm. Tix: \$6. Tix: \$23.95. (Professional non-Equity.) 729-8584.

"An Evening of Laughter With Betty Crocker and Father Franchise" Aug 14 and 15. The Reindeer Theatre Company presents two one-act, one-person comedies starring Nancy Woodward and Louis Philippe. At Reindeer Pointe, 650 Forest Ave., Portland, at 8 pm. Free. Reservations required. 874-9002.

"Greater Tuna" Aug 18-29. Two actors play 20 zany characters in this comedy set in Tuna, Texas. At the Arundel Barn Playhouse, 53 Old Post Road, Arundel. Aug 18-22, 25-29 at 8 pm. Aug 19, 21, 26 and 28 at 2 pm. Aug 23 at 7 pm. Tix: \$17-\$20. 985-5552.

"Harold Be Thy Name" Aug 13-30. Grover's Crossing/Stone Pinhead Ensemble presents the world premiere of this musical comedy. Set in the Vatican, the play follows two angels, some nuns, various evil factions and Jesus H. Christ as they try to select the next Pope. At the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland. Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 7 pm. Tix: \$10. 775-5103.

"The Heiress" Through Aug 28. The Theatre at Monmouth stages this tale of a plain-jane heiress who meets the man of her dreams. But does he love her — or her expected windfall? At the Theatre at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St., Monmouth. Aug 16, 20, 23, 26, and 28 at 8 pm, Aug 8 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"In the Beginning" Through Aug 22. The Maine State Musical Theatre presents a musical comedy featuring Adam and Eve's neighbors, Noah's cousins and buddies of Moses. At Pickard Theatre, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. Aug 13, 15, 19 and 22 at 8 pm, Aug 12, 14, 18, 20 and 21 at 2 pm and 8 pm, Aug 16 at 2 pm. Tix: \$18-\$30. (Professional Equity.) 725-8769.

"Into the Woods" Through Aug 15. Characters from a number of classic fairy tales come together in this musical, performed by the Vinegar Hill Youth. At the Arundel Barn Playhouse, 53 Old Post Road, Arundel, at 8 pm. Aug 14 and 15 at 2 pm. Tix: \$17-\$20. 985-5552.

"Jack and the Beanstalk" Through Aug 27. Fee-fy-fum. The classic tale of magic beans and English-blood smelin' giants roars to life at the Theater at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St., Monmouth. Aug 13, 16, 18, 23, 25 and 27 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

Late Night Cabaret Through Aug 22. The Theatre Project dishes out food, music and comedy every Sat at the Theater Project, 14 School St., Brunswick, at 10:30 pm. Tix: \$10 (Professional non-

Equity.) 729-8584.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" Through Aug 29. The Theater At Monmouth presents Shakespeare's comedy about Sir John Falstaff, a wily womanizer who discovers hell has no wrath At the Theater at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St., Monmouth. Aug 13, 15, and 29 at 8 pm, Aug 21 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"Richard III" Through Aug 27. Shakespeare's tale of a conniving misfit who will stop at nothing to obtain the crown of England. At the Theater At Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St., Monmouth. Aug 18, 21, and 27 at 8 pm, Aug 15 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"Sherlock Holmes & The Sign of the Four" Through Aug 29. The great detective follows a treasure trail from an ancient Indian fortress to the foggy streets of London — a path beset by murder, poisonous darts and bloodhounds. At the Theater At Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St., Monmouth. Aug 14, 19, 21 and 25 at 8 pm, Aug 29 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"Tammy and Billy Bob's Wedding" Through Aug 28. A family from Arkansas meets a family from Cape Elizabeth in this send-up of weddings, performed by Renegade Productions. At Charlie Beig's Special Events Center, 754 Roosevelt Trail, Windham. Aug 14 and 28 at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$29.95. (Community theater.) 892-9241.

"Twelfth Night" Through Aug 22. The Theater Project's summer festival continues with this farce about gender-bending, clowning and mistaken identity. More humor than you can shake a stick at. At the Theater Project, 14 School St., Brunswick. Aug 13, 15 and 22 at 8 pm. Tix: \$10-\$12. (Community company.) 642-3743.

"Two By Two" Through Aug 23. At the Schoolhouse Arts Center, Route 114, Standish. Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$10-\$12. (Community company.) 642-3743.

Young Playwrights Through Aug 14. The Children's Theater of Maine presents a batch of plays by contestants from the 1998 Young Playwrights Contest. Aug 13: "On Strike," at 10 am. "All Your Hopes and Dreams," at 2 pm. "Who Dunit Hotel," at 7 pm. Aug 14: "All Your Hopes and Dreams," at 10 am. "Who Dunit Hotel," at 2 pm. "On Strike," at 7 pm. At UNE's Westbrook College campus (Rain location: Ludcke Auditorium). Tix: \$3. 878-2774.

Congress Street Minutes

Vacations: The Way Life Should Be

When I think vacation I think work — not in the paycheck sense, but in the romantic bohemian sense, i.e., time to work on the interminable novel about crazy artist types, make weird collages out of pictures of castles and dolls, devour a few deeply disturbing but extremely well-written novels, embark on some quietly revolutionary deconstructionist philosophy, etc. Nonetheless, when I took a vacation a few weeks ago, I swore I was going to force myself to do some serious relaxing. It's telling when you have to force yourself to do nothing. Of course, giving a week off to someone accustomed to the full-time work grind is kind of like feeding Death by Chocolate to someone used to subsisting on yogurt and bean sprouts.

By coincidence, on the first weekend of my vacation, my significant other and I had a car at our disposal. The problem with having a car is deciding where to go. We finally decided to drive aimlessly, and before we knew it we were cruising along Route 1 while my S.O. recited a mantra consisting of: "We're living the life. We're dreaming the dream. We're living the dream." Halted by endless stoplights under the blazing sun, surrounded by clusters of malls and the decadent scent of exhaust, this mantra became: "We're living the life. We're dreaming the nightmare. We're living the nightmare."

We eventually wound up at Ferry Beach in Scarborough, where we paid \$5 for one of the last parking spots. In the spirit of freewheeling spontaneity, we lacked bathing suits or blanket, but we didn't let such trifles stop us. We marched around the hordes, which were all crammed into a thin strip of sand at high tide, and after hiking to a remote spot, plunked ourselves down (gasps!) directly on the sand. The bathing suit part wasn't too essential in my case since I don't know how to swim. Still unschooled in the art of doing nothing, I busied myself making castles in the sand with really cool moats into which I placed desiccated baby crab shells, for the sake of verisimilitude, while my S.O. frolicked around in his underwear.

Later in the week, my S.O.'s father was due to pass through en route from New York City to Belfast. Weather took on a whole new significance as we surfed the channels for fresh data on the possibility of rain. Finally, we resigned ourselves to interminable Scramble and Uno tournaments. Pops showed up wearing a T-shirt that said "Sunova Beach." He was expecting lobster and a dip in the Atlantic. I braced myself for that most humiliating of circumstances — acting like a tourist in my own town.

Luckily, the day after Pops' arrival was clear and bright, though Pops was a little sluggish after being woken up in the wee hours by the cats' pre-dawn .5K Scramble through the apartment. I suggested we head to Scarborough Beach for the sake of variation. I like this beach because it feels less claustrophobic than some of the others and there are huge crashing waves and surfers. Unfortunately, the water was so frigid that only a masochist would have attempted entering the ocean without a wet suit, so Pops didn't get much more than a wade and a splash while the skies grew ominous overhead. Because my S.O. has an irrational fear of the Lobster Shack at Two Lights, we drove to Benny's on West Commercial Street to partake of Maine seafood. For some reason Benny's is the kind of touristy setup that locals feel comfortable in. Besides, you get to sit at benches that are virtually in the woods.

For my third beach experience, sans car, we headed to the East End Beach on my last weekend of vacation. The beach was surprisingly uncrowded, and I ensconced myself in an excellent little rock throne in the beach wall. The exquisite clouds would have made English painter John Constable wet his pants. Though many locals will scoff at the East End Beach as a viable alternative to off-peninsula sites, the city's beach actually has quite a few perks. Sure, it's rocky and swimmers risk meeting up with some strange bacteria, but the water seems cleaner than it has in years, there are lots of boats to watch (we counted over 80) and there's a very mellow beach scene, despite the popularity of the new East End Trail. Best of all, it's free, you don't need a car to get there and it's only 10 minutes away by bicycle from incredibly good coffee.

The problem with vacations is they: a) make you realize what a ridiculous life you lead the other 51 weeks of the year; b) which makes you want to quit your job; and c) just when you've finally gotten yourself to relax, breathe deep and take a good uninterrupted look at yourself and the things around you, it's over. Like my mentor Morrissey once said, "Work is just a four-letter word." CBW



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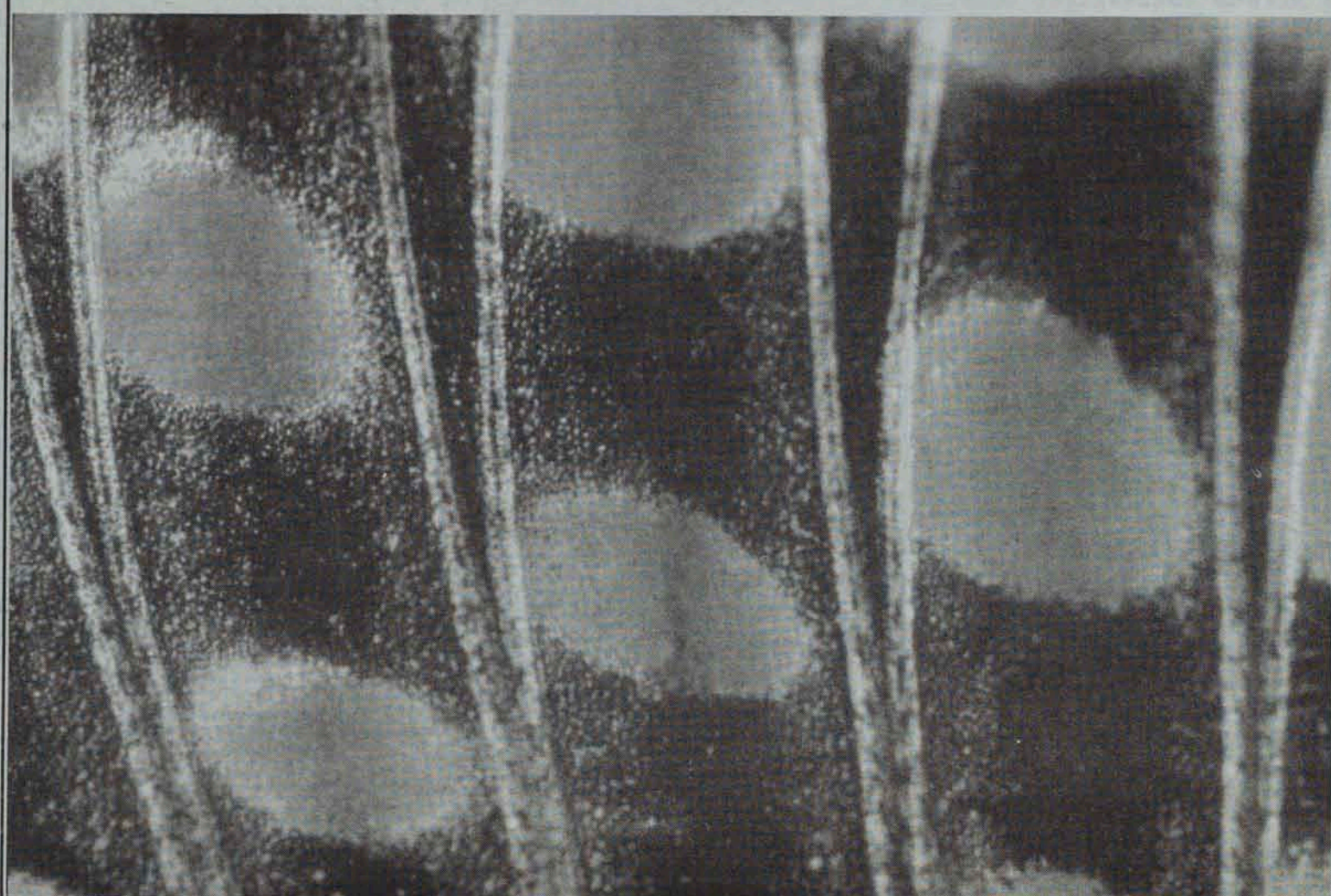
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WMPG, the non-commercial, educational community radio station at the University of Southern Maine seeks a highly energetic, creative person to serve as Station Manager. The qualified candidate will possess a strong commitment to the mission of campus based, community radio and have two years of non-profit radio management or related experience. Knowledge of FCC rules regarding non-commercial stations is a must. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated ability to manage day-to-day financial activities and budget development, understand radio fundraising and grant writing, work with a talented volunteer staff of 150, and thrive in a chaotic, multi-cultural environment. Knowledge of broadcast equipment and physical plant a plus. Bachelor degree or equivalent experience required. Applications must be received by August 24, 1998. The University of Southern Maine's Student Senate is an AA/EOE employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Send cover letter, resume and 3 references to:

USM Student Senate,
Hiring Committee,
P.O. Box 9300,
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or see www.usm.maine.edu/wmpg for more information.

visual Arts



"Grayling, Lake Baikal" (13"x 20") cibachrome print by Bill Curtsinger, at Robert Clements Gallery

openings

Art Works at Stone Soup Artists, 102 Maine St., Brunswick. Opening reception for "Treills & Tripod," works in wood and clay by Susan Huston Littlefield, Aug. 18 from 6-8 pm. Shows through Sept. 15. Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-4 pm. 798-5841.

Barbara's Kitchen & Cafe 388 Cottage Rd., South Portland. Opening reception for "Cities and Creatures," prints by Katherine W.B. Pike, Aug. 26 from 6-8 pm. Shows through Oct. 12. Hours: Tues-Fri 7 am-3 pm, Sat-Sun 8 am-2 pm, Thurs-Sat 5-10 pm. 767-6313.

Danforth Gallery 34 Danforth St., Portland. Opening reception for "Members' Exhibition II," featuring photography, sculpture, digital art and video, Aug. 13 at 6 pm. Shows through Aug. 29. Hours: Wed-Sun noon-4 pm, Thurs noon-6 pm and by appointment. 775-6245.

Jane Fitzpatrick Gallery Alternative Space 654 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for "The Young New Yorkers," the work of four emerging artists from New York — Kate Cary, Michael Houston, Vicki Michalos and Charles Webster — Aug. 14 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Aug. 29. Hours: Wed-Sat noon-5 pm. 772-1961.

Hole in the Wall Studios Route 302, Raymond. Paintings by Daisy Green, Ann Stein-Aaron and Cynthia Morse, and sculpture by Lou Maestro, show through Sept. 8. "Art in the Yard," an outdoor sculpture show featuring the work of 20 New England artists, shows through Sept. 30. Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30 am-6 pm, Fri 9:30 am-7 pm, Sat-Sun 9:30 am-6 pm. 655-4292.

Icon Contemporary Art 19 Mason St., Brunswick. Opening reception for new paintings by Rudolph de Harak, Aug. 13 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Sept. 19. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 725-8157.

Institute of Contemporary Art MECA Building, 522 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for photographs of Porter resident Elmer Walker by Tome Harbert, and "The Permanence of Memory: Objects of Influence," a multimedia installation by Bradley McCallum, Aug. 13 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Sept. 25. Hours: Wed-Sat 10 am-5 pm. 879-5742.

Jamison Gallery & Frame 305 Commercial St., Portland. Opening reception for "Waiting for the Sun," new works in acrylic on canvas by John Hafford, Aug. 13 from 6-8 pm. Shows through Sept. 9. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 772-5522.

Maine Photo Co-Op 100 Oak St., Portland. Opening reception for "The Art of Passion," black and white photos by Nancy and Matthew Sleeth, M.D., Aug. 13 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Shows through Aug. 27. Hours: Tues-Fri noon-6 pm, Sat 10 am-6 pm. 774-1900.

galleries

Blue Rabbit Gallery 11 Exchange St., Portland. "Puppets and Poppets," a group show featuring Rebecca Goodale, Nancy Parker, Shana Hall, Judith Clark, Laurie Sabineau and others, shows through Aug. 15. Call for hours. 761-0017.

Robert Clements Gallery 81 West Commercial St., Portland. "Bait & Switch (Alluring Fish Tales)," featuring the works of Darwin Nordin, Robert Clements, Ethan Gordon and Bill Curtsinger, shows through Sept. 1. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm, Fri 9:30 am-7 pm, Sat-Sun 9:30 am-6 pm. 655-4292.

Front Room Gallery 378 Cottage Rd., South Portland. The gallery holds its opening show, featuring

paintings by Patrick Corrigan, photos by Peter Shellenberger, ceramics by Jon White and furniture by Harvey Johnson, shows through Aug. Hours: Wed-Sat 11 am-6 pm, Sun 11 am-5 pm. 767-9070.

The Frost Gallery 411 Congress St., Portland. Paintings by Alfred Chadbourn, Laurence Sisson, William Thon, Dahlov Icar and Thomas Trotty. Ongoing. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-6 pm and by appointment. 773-2555.

The Gallery 108 High St., Portland. New works by Bonnie O'Abate and Susan Turen, including paintings, drawings and prints, show through Aug.

22. Hours: Thurs-Sat noon-5 pm. 761-0076.

Gallery 749 Exchange St., Portland. "New Faces," works including baskets, clay, furniture, glass, mixed media, fiber and sculptured metal and jewelry by 10 Maine artists. Ongoing. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs-Sat 10 am-8 pm and Sun noon-6 pm. 761-7007.

Granville Galleries 146 Middle St., Portland. New paintings and ceramics by Heidi Gerquest show through Aug. 30. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 772-2951.

Lakes Gallery & Sculpture Garden Route 302, South Casco. Works on paper by Beverly Hallan and

paintings of New England scenery by Bruce Muirhead show through Aug. 16. Hours: Sat-Sun 10 am-5 pm. 655-5066.

Little Sebago Gallery & Frame 765 Roosevelt Trail, Windham. Opening reception for new works by Carl Gordon Cutler, shows through Oct. 4. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Sat 9:30 am-4 pm. 892-8086.

Maine History Gallery 489 Congress St., Portland. "Rum, Riot and Reform," a provocative look at drinking in Maine and America from the colonial era to the present day, shows through Oct. 31. Hours: Sun-Sat 10 am-4 pm. 879-0427.

O'Farrell Gallery 58 Maine St., Brunswick. "Selected Paintings," the works of Neil Welliver, shows through Sept. 5. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm. 729-8228.

Pleasant Street Collective 52 Pleasant St., Portland. Sculpture, paintings and drawings by Rebecca Wright-Wheeler show through Aug. 29. Hours: Wed-Sat 11 am-7 pm and by appointment. 761-7909.

UNE Art Gallery University of New England's Westbrook College campus. "Verner Reed: A Retrospective," featuring more than 55 pieces by the Falmouth photographer, shows through Sept. 12. Hours: Tues 10 am-

ings by Lenny Hatch show through Aug. 781-2351.

Gallery Custom Framing & Gallery 150 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. "The Thunderhead Series: Landscapes of Maine and the American West" by Deborah Carlton, shows through Sept. 7. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Thurs 10 am-7 pm, Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 781-3555.

On Balance Center for Healing and Education 4 Milk St., Portland. Recent paintings by Mary L. Cupp show through Sept. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-noon and 1-5:30 pm. 772-9812.

Online Art Exhibition Company Works by local emerging artists can be viewed at

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"Wildfire Home: Facing Nature," featuring 13 watercolors, five oil paintings and selected wood engravings, shows through Sept. 27.

Shaker Museum Route 26, New Gloucester. "The Fruitage Will Never Fail," illustrating the story of the 200-year-old orchards at Shaker Village, shows through Aug. 30. "The Whole Sacredly Kept: A Decade of the Shaker

Library in its New Home," shows through Oct. 12. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-4:30 pm. 926-4597.

Umbrella Cover Museum 105 Brackett Ave., Peaks Island. A humorous display of umbrella sheaths is ongoing. Hours: by appointment. 766-4496.

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Submissions for the visual arts section should be received two weeks prior to publication. Send to Allen Dammann, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101 or e-mail zmiller@maine.cc.com.

museums

Bates College Museum of Art Bates College campus, Lewiston. "Phil Sultz: Painted Collage" and "Jan Sultz: Stoneware Forms," show through Aug. 15. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 786-6158.

Bowdoin College Museum of Art 9400 College Station, Brunswick. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. Free. 725-3275.

"Museum Menagerie," paintings and sculpture featuring beasts of land, sea and air, shows through Aug. 16.

"William H. Alexander Gifts" A collection of American 20th-century art, including works by Cornell, Bultman, Haas and Lindenberg, shows through Aug. 23.

The Museum of African Tribal Art 122 Spring St., Portland. A collection of African tribal masks and artifacts representing over 1,000 years of Central African history. Ongoing. Hours: Sun noon-6 pm. Mon by appointment only, Tues-Sat 11 am-7 pm. 871-1788.

Portland Museum of Art 7 Congress St., Portland. Hours: Tues, Wed, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Thurs-Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. Admission: \$6 (\$5 students and seniors/11 youth). Admission is free every Fri from 5-9 pm. 775-6148 or 1-800-639-4067.

"The Ernst Haas Memorial Collection," including 70 black and white photos by Haas's associates and students of the Maine Photographic Workshops in Rockland, shows through Aug. 23.

Library in its New Home," shows through Oct. 12. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-4:30 pm. 926-4597.

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other venues

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Coffee By Design 67 India St., Portland. Pastels by Erica Eysenbach show through Aug. 30. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-6 pm, Sat 8 am-6 pm. 879-2233.

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Dellish Pottery 134 Spring St., Portland. Bead art, a collection of glass beads, as well as print and painted fabric, by Susan Winn, shows through Aug. 15. Hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-6 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 871-1594.

Falmouth Memorial Library 5 Lunt Rd., Falmouth. Recent paint-

ings by Lenny Hatch show through Aug. 781-2351.

Gallery Custom Framing & Gallery 150 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. "The Thunderhead Series: Landscapes of Maine and the American West" by Deborah Carlton, shows through Sept. 7. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Thurs 10 am-7 pm, Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 781-3555.

On Balance Center for Healing and Education 4 Milk St., Portland. Recent paintings by Mary L. Cupp show through Sept. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-noon and 1-5:30 pm. 772-9812.

Online Art Exhibition Company Works by local emerging artists can be viewed at

[/home.maine.n.com/oaec](http://home.maine.n.com/oaec).

Portland Coffee Roasting Company 111 Commercial St., Portland. Works by B.J. Danforth. Ongoing. Hours: 6:30 am-5:30 pm daily. 772-9044.

Portland Public Library 5 Monument Sq., Portland. "Coastal Inspirations," the nature photographs of Ralph Staples, shows through Aug. 29. Hours: Mon, Wed and Fri, 9 am-6 pm. Tues and Thurs, 12-9 pm. Sat 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

Studio 313 34 Danforth St., Portland. "Mainly Green," works by Salazar, show through September. Hours: Thurs noon-8 pm, Fri 4-7 pm. 775-2708.

USM Outer Map Library 314 Forest Ave., Portland. "Mapmaking Through the Eyes of Children," showcasing 67 maps by students of local schools, and "Firmament and Fundament: Humans Making Sense of the Natural World," focusing on the stories and art that decorate maps, show through Aug. 13. Hours: Wed 1-4:30 pm and 6-8 pm, Thurs 9 am-12:30 pm and 1-4:30 pm, Sat 9 am-12:30 pm. 780-4850.

Workshop, 87 Market St., Portland. For a full schedule, call 761-0991.

The Portland Museum of Art has various classes. At the PMA, 7 Congress Sq., Portland. 775-6148.

Portland Pottery offers a variety of classes. At Portland Pottery, 118 Washington Ave. 772-4334.

Sawyer Street Studios has adult classes on Mon, Tues and Wed evenings. Children's classes are Wed and Thurs afternoons.

Genevieve Levin teaches pottery classes for kids and adults each Mon throughout Aug. At Sawyer Street Studios, 131 Sawyer St., So. Portland. Call Levin at 892-9184 or 767-4394. Call Sawyer Street Studios at 767-1113.

The Shaker Museum Aug. 15: "Shaker Oval Box Making" from 9 am-noon. Cost: \$15. Aug. 22: "Handfinishing Woods" from 8:30 am-noon. Cost: \$15. Space is limited. The museum also has free demonstrations. Aug. 15: Wool. Aug. 22: Blacksmithing. Sept. 5: Baskets. Oct. 10: Weaving. At the Shaker Museum, Route 26, New Gloucester. 926-4597.

Sheldrake Studio offers drawing and painting classes for adults, beginner or experienced, and fun art classes for kids in lettermaking and papermaking. Private tutors also available. First month: \$80. 775-2653.

Tremendous has woodworking classes. At Tremendous, Longfellow Sq., Portland. Call Normand at 780-9627.

The Wilderness School offers a number of classes. At the Wilderness School, 99 Woodside Rd., Brunswick. 729-8616.

Wobabe Directory of Artistic and Cultural Resources in Brunswick An index of a wide variety of categories, including visual, performing and literary artists, artisans, cultural organizations and businesses, as well as info on art and music lessons, gallery locations, bookstores and theaters, can be visited at www.curtis-brary.com/arts/.

"Young At Art" Judy Faust offers unusual art classes for kids ages 5-13 and their parents. "Drawing at Sunset," Aug. 13 at 5 p.m. Portland Recreation, 21 Nelson Road. "Funky Found Object Puppets," Aug. 13 in So. Portland. In Falmouth, register at the Falmouth Town Hall, 271 Falmouth St. To register in So. Portland, call 761-9438 or 767-7650.

Zygote Bookworks & Cafe offers classes on book repair and book and portfolio making at its bindery at 61 Pleasant St., Portland. Classes limited to 6 (8 in calligraphy). Call Scott at 775-4121.

calls for artists

Front Room Gallery seeks slides/photos of work for upcoming exhibitions. Send to Front Room Gallery, 378 Cottage Rd., So. Portland, ME 04106. 767-9070.

Life Drawing Group seeks members interested in working in the Santa Fe style. Call Ginny or Daisy in Freeport at 865-6416.

The Metalhead Society and the Danforth Gallery seek entries for the "Metalismithing in the New Millennium" exhibition, showing Sept-Oct. The focus areas are: work created using the hydraulic press, work created using the technique of fold-forming, work created using transfer etching and work created using "Precious Metal Clay." For a prospectus and additional information, send a SASE to The Metalhead Society, c/o Ann Thompson, 31 Seabrook Mill Road, Biddeford, ME 04005.

Online Art Exhibition Company invites artists to exhibit their work over the internet at [/home.maine.n.com/oaec](http://home.maine.n.com/oaec). For an application or additional info, call 761-0017 or email to brabrit1@maine.n.com.

classes & workshops

ACTS has photography and drawing for adults and kids. At ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave., Portland. By appointment only. 761-2465.

The Clay Cafe has classes for kids. At the Clay Cafe, 26 Free St., Portland. 775-3004.

Clay Classes If you are somebody interested in skillful, yet casual clay classes, call Allison Arnold at Pleasant St. Collective at 761-7909. All hand-building. Any age over 7 is welcome.

Creative Resource Center offers programs for kids of all ages. Aug. 13: "Mask Making." Aug. 20: "Sun Catchers." Aug. 27: "Creative Collage." At the Creative Resource Center, 1103 Forest Ave., Portland, from 3:15-4 pm. Free. Space is limited. 797-9543.

Kopikat offers classes in interior decorating. Aug. 20: "Faux for Walls," from 6-9 pm. Cost: \$50. Aug. 22: "Faux for Walls, Level 2," from 9 am-noon. Cost: \$50. At Pond Cove Paint and Decorating, 305 Commercial St., Portland. 846-9663.

Maine Mobile Arts offers classes at Stone Soup Artists, 102 Maine St., Brunswick. 721-8634.

Personal Creations Workshop offers classes in decorative painting, stenciling, kids' crafts, pressed flower pictures and cartooning. At Personal Creations

events & lectures

MECA Open House Tours Visit Maine College of Art's studio space the first Tues of every month at the MECA Building, 522 Congress St., Portland, at noon. RSVP 775-5098.

Open Slide Night The Union of Maine Visual Artists invites artists, craftspersons and anyone interested to attend an open slide night the second Fri of each month at Jay York Affordable Photo, 58 Wilcox St., Portland, at 7:30 pm. Bring slides for discussion/feedback. 773-3434.

The Portland Museum of Art has upcoming lectures held in conjunction with its exhibitions. Aug. 14: "Matisse" with Annette Weinhardt. At the PMA, 7 Congress Sq., Portland, at 12:30 and 6 pm. Free. 775-6148 or 800-639-4067.

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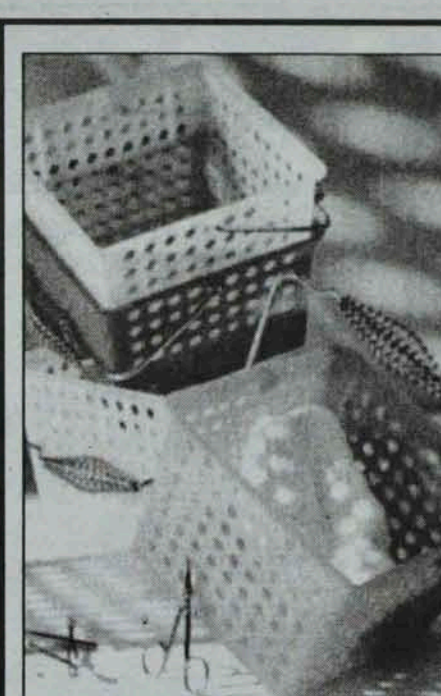
Thursday 8/13 India Pale Ale Night. IPA's from Gritty McDuff's, Harpoon, Redhook, Sea Dog, Shipyard and Stone Coast.

Thursday 8/20 Miller Brewing Company. The Champagne of Beers!

Thursday 8/27 Redhook Ale Brewery. Portsmouth, NH. Brewer Scott Donham & The Redhook Gang will be pouring Redhook Blonde, Hefe-weizen, IPA and Double Black Stout.

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Listings

Casco Bay Weekly listings are a fun and free service to our readers. To have a listing considered for publication, send complete information (including dates, times, costs, complete address, a contact telephone number) by noon on Thursday prior to publication. E-mail: zmiller@maine.rr.com.

performing arts

auditions/submissions

Actor and Actress "Cattle Call" A number of theaters seek performers, including Acom Productions, Chamber Theater of Maine, Embassy Players, Flaming Productions, Mad Horse Theatre Company, Portland Stage Company and the Public Theatre. Actors must prepare two contrasting monologues, each no more than two minutes, and bring 15-20 headshots and résumés. Auditions are Aug. 26 from 5-9 pm and Aug. 27 from 9 am-1 pm at Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland. Call Michael at 775-5103.

Actors and Actresses wanted for independent video production (and possible series to follow) for broadcast on local public access television. Call 767-0795.

Actors and Actresses Flaming Productions announces auditions for its upcoming production of "The Elephant Man." Auditions are at Starbird Music Hall, 525 Forest Ave., Portland. Aug. 16 at 6 pm, Aug. 17 at 7 pm, 799-7337.

Actors and Actresses The Portland Stage Company announces general auditions for its 1998-99 season. Equity and non-equity auditions are Aug. 17, from 1-8 pm and Aug. 18 from 10 am-5 pm. At the Portland Performing Arts Center, 25A Forest Ave., Portland. 774-1043.

Actors and Actresses Flaming Productions announces auditions for the comedy "Jeffrey." Performers should bring a headshot and résumé, and be prepared to do a two to three minute monologue. Auditions are Sept. 10 at the Oak Street Studio, 496 Congress St., Portland, from 1:30-7:30 pm. For an appointment, call J.D. or Craig at 761-5959.

Actors, Actresses and Musicians The Toy Theatre seeks performers for its travelling company. Auditions are Aug. 15 at the Biddeford City Theatre, Main St., at 10 am. Experience not necessary. Call Frank at 282-4151.

Actresses are wanted to help form an improv group for a public access television show. For auditions, call James at 774-0263.

The Cathedral Chamber Singers of St. Luke's Cathedral announce auditions for its community-based chamber choir, performing secular and sacred choral works of all periods. To schedule an audition, call Albert at 772-5434.

Creative Unconventional Individuals are wanted to be interviewed for "How You're Creating a Life You Love," an upcoming work by writer Joan Silberstein. People passionate about traveling are also urged to call. 775-2862.

Fellowships for Filmmakers New filmmakers are encouraged to apply for the Maine Community Foundation's Jane Morrison Film Fellowship, offering one or two grants between \$1000-\$2000. Deadline: Sept. 1. Call 667-9735 or visit www.maineccf.org.

Mid-Coast Orchestra now seeks string players, including violas, violins and double basses. To schedule an audition, call Paul at 829-2752 or Kristen at 854-2629.

Models, Designers, Actresses and Musicians Portland Media Artists has several projects currently underway. Models and designers are wanted for features on a new cable TV series, "Model Citizen." Athletic actresses are needed for an adventure series, "Nightingale." Writers are wanted for an episodic series to air on the WWW. Musicians are needed to score a short film to be produced this fall. Send samples and letter to Portland Media Artists, c/o Frank McMahon, 9 Beechwood Lane, Falmouth, ME 04105, or call 797-2416.

The Oratorio Choral of Brunswick announces auditions for all parts, beginning Aug. 17. To schedule an audition, call Peter at 782-1403.

The Portland Players and Port Resources seek volunteers to help build sets, work backstage, make costumes, usher, and perform office and stage work. Call Cat at 828-0048.

Reindeer Theater Company seeks kids ages 7 and up for an upcoming production of "In One Basket." 874-9002.

Renaissance Voices a small Portland-based a cappella group, holds auditions for all voice parts. To audition, call Marion at 781-2965.

Road to Memphis Contest Aug. 30. The Southern Maine Blues Society invites all unsigned Maine blues artists to compete for the chance to attend the International Blues Talent Competition in Memphis on Oct. 23 and 24. At the Toucan Lounge, Lewiston, from 1-6 pm. Entry is free. Audience admission: \$6. Call Andy at 353-2842 or Doug at 283-4121.

Rough Cut Screenplay Challenge Aspiring screenwriters can show off their creative flair by collaborating online with Hollywood pro David S. Goyer. Goyer has completed the first 10 pages of an original science-fiction screenplay. Surfers can continue the story by submitting their own 10 pages as the next chapter. Each week, a panel of judges selects the best submission. Visit the contest site at www.roughcut.com.

The Windham Center Stage Theater seeks performers in grades 4-12 for an upcoming production of "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." Auditions are Aug. 30 at Windham Community Center, School Road, from noon-4 pm. Call Joyce at 892-3102.

Women's Barbershop Quartet The Casco Bay Chapter of the Sweet Adelines seeks women who can read music and stay on tune. Call for an audition. 799-1924.

Writers wanted to create a writing group. Scripts of all types welcome. 780-1126.

workshops/lectures

Acting and Theater Classes The Oak Street Theatre for the Performing Arts features beginning and advanced classes, as well as workshops for seasoned students and actors. Classes run 8 weeks and include "Acting for Serious Beginners," "Acting for the Camera" and "Acting for Young People." Workshops include "Auditioning" and "How to Increase Your Earnings as a Working Actor." For a full schedule, call 775-5103.

Capoeira Angola Classes Taught by Ganga Zumba. Classes are Mon, Wed and Fri at the Rieche School, 166 Brackett St., Portland, from 5:30-8 pm. Cost: \$5 per class. Call Kinney at 879-2371.

Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio offers a number of classes ranging from jazz to streetfunk to African. Adults and kids welcome. At Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio, 151 St. John St., Portland. 871-1013.

"Celebration of Achievement Chorus" Led by director Mitch Thomas, the chorus meets each Wed at the Chestnut Street Church, 17 Chestnut St., Portland, from 4:30-6 pm. For info on joining, call Cat at 828-0048.

Creative Movement led by Jerry Sanders. An evening of freestyle dance in pairs, groups or alone, each Mon from 5:15-7:15 pm. At Agade, 657 Congress St., Portland. Cost: \$5. 780-1500.

Dance Classes in beginner ballet, African dance, modern dance, tap dance, dance for preschoolers and kids ages 6-12 and yoga are offered at ACTS, 341 Cumberland Ave., Portland. By appointment only. 761-2465.

Dancing From the Inside Out is an ongoing class in expressive dance and creative movement in a safe, supportive space. No experience necessary. Classes are Wed from 4-6 pm and Sat from 9-11 am. At Maine Ballroom Dance Studio, 614A Congress St., Portland. Cost: \$10 (first class free). Contact Jesse Loesberg at 773-2362 or visit www.javanet.com/~loesberg.

"Matrix" The dance improv group teaches contact improv, guided structure and more on Mon at Casco Bay Movers Dance Studio, 151 St. John St., Portland, from 8-11 pm. Cost: \$4. 775-4981.

Monthly Dance Through Sept. 12. Everyone is invited to dance the second Sat of each month at the Chestnut Street Church, 17 Chestnut St., Portland, from 6:30-9 pm. Admission: \$3. Call Cat at 828-0048.

New Dance Studio offers classes. At New Dance Studio, 61 Pleasant St., Portland. 780-0554.

Oriental Dance and Belly Dance Baraka's Josie Conte and Jeanne Hardy explore costuming, choreography and technique for all levels using elements from various dance forms for children and adults. 828-6571 or 773-2966.

The Portland Conservatory of Music offers private and group lessons in piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, harp and voice. Classes for all ages are available. 775-3356.

Portland Media Artists Producers, directors, writers, crew members, actors/actresses and others involved in video or film meet the second and fourth Tues of each month at Javanet, 37 Exchange St., Portland, at 7 pm. Call Frank McMahon at 797-2416.

Friends of Feral Felines Fundraiser Aug. 13-16. T-shirts, cat crafts and cat-related items. Donations of cat food also accepted. At Pet Quarters, 486 Payne Road, Scarborough, from 10 am-2 pm. 797-3014.

Beach Olympics Aug. 13-16. Maine's biggest ice cream sundae is one of the spectacles at this summer event benefiting Maine Special Olympics. Also included is the Coast Guard Color Guard March, storytellers and live bands. At various times and locations in Old Orchard Beach. 934-2500.

Semi-Annual Book Sale Aug. 13-17. Fiction, non-fiction, reference, travel, personal growth and special interest books, from 10¢ to \$2. At the Rhine Auditorium in the

Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., Aug. 13 from 5-8 pm, Aug. 15 from 9 am-3 pm, Aug. 17 from 10 am-2 pm. 871-1700.

St. Peter's Road Race Aug. 14. A four-mile run around the Eastern Prom, followed by refreshments and an award ceremony. At St. Peter's Church, 72 Federal St., Portland, at 7 pm. Fee: \$10. 773-0748.

MS Regatta Aug. 14 and 15. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society kicks off its fundraiser Aug. 14 with a cocktail and auction at Hand Boat and Sea Dog Grill & Tavern, Foreside Road, Falmouth, at 6 pm. Aug. 15 features a yacht parade into Portland Harbor at 11 am, the MS Regatta first gun at 12:30 pm, followed by racing and cruising, and an awards ceremony at Handy Boat. 761-5815 or 800-639-1330.

Greater Portland Landmarks Summer Tours Aug. 15: Peaks Island, from 12:15-5:30 pm. Cost: \$2.60-\$7.50. For a full schedule, details and starting locations, call 774-5561.

Maine Highland Games Aug. 15. A day of Scottish music, dance and food. At Thomas Point Beach, Brunswick, from 8 am-4:30 pm. Tix: \$9 (\$4 kids ages 6-12/kids under 6 free). 549-7857.

Pirate's Cove Moonlight Cruise on Casco Bay Aug. 15. Mercy Hospital leads a late-night cruise aboard *The Bay Mist*. The evening includes dancing to the Mick Rory Band, a cocktail buffet and cash bar, all starting at 7 pm. Cost: \$35. Tickets must be purchased before Aug. 7. 879-3605.

USM Junior Tennis Championships Fundraiser Aug. 15 and 16. USM's Women's tennis team hosts a tournament for boys and girls ages 9-18. Entry deadline: Aug. 11. Call Coach Wayne St. Peter at 780-5574.

Spring Point Family Festival Aug. 15. A day of family entertainment kicks off with a 5K road race at 8:30 am, a pancake breakfast from 9-10 am and a parade at 9:15 am with pony rides and kids games. Live entertainment features Schooner Fare, the Royal River Philharmonic Jazz Band, Marcus the Music Man, the Wicked Good band, The Rockit Band and demonstrations of square dancing, line dancing and gymnastics. On the athletic field at Southern Maine Technical College, South Portland. 300-008 and 8 pm. 773-0485.

Yard Sale Aug. 15. Books, clothes, jewelry, crafts, baked goods and candy. At the Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland, from 9 am-noon. 797-5366.

Historical Cruise of Casco Bay Aug. 16. The Friends of Casco Bay host a tour of the various gunneries and forts around the inner islands, with lots of local tales and folklore. Meet at Eagle Island Tours, 170 Commercial St., Portland, at 5 pm. Finishes at 7 pm. Cost: \$15 (\$12 members). 799-8574.

Sea Dogs Home Games Aug. 17-19: Bowie Bay at 7 pm, Aug. 20-22: Reading at 7 pm, Aug. 23: Reading at 4 pm, Aug. 24-26: Akron at 7 pm, Aug. 27: Akron at 6 pm. At Hadlock Field, 271 Park Ave., Portland. Tix: \$4-\$6. (\$2-\$5 seniors and kids). 879-9500.

Yard Sale Aug. 22. Tons of second-hand treasures. At St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St., Gorham, from 9 am-2 pm. 839-3082.

Open Poetry Readings Aug. 24. Hosted by Steve Luttrell of *Cafe Review*. At Oak Street Theatre, 91 Oak St., Portland. Sign-up at 7:30 pm. Readings at 8 pm. Admission: \$2. 775-5103.

"Israel at 50: Looking Back, Looking Ahead" Aug. 25. Consul of Israel to New England, Eyal Shlein-Michael, discusses Israel's past and future. At Temple Beth El, 400 Deering Ave., Portland, at 7:30 pm. Free.

Walking Tours of Downtown Portland Through Sept. 30. Greater Portland Landmarks reveals Portland's past as reflected in its streetscapes. Tours are Wed and Sat at Monument Sq., Portland, at 11:30 am. Tix: \$7 (free for kids under 16 accompanied by an adult). 774-5561.

Guided Tours of Portland's Prohibition History Through Oct. In conjunction with its exhibition, "Rum, Riot and Reform: Maine and the History of American Drinking," the Center for Maine History brings Maine's experiment with prohibition alive with one-hour tours, starting at the site of the Rum Riot of 1855 and continuing on to various watering holes and historical locations. Tours begin at the Maine History Gallery, 489 Congress St., Portland, at 2 pm. Tix (including admission to the exhibition): \$5 (\$2 kids under 12). 879-0427.

Peace Vigils The Peace and Justice Center of Southern Maine holds a vigil every Wed at Bath Iron Works, Commercial St., Portland, from noon-1 pm, rain or shine. 772-1442.

kids

Child Care Connections holds public referral hours Mon-Fri from 9 am-4 pm, with information about day-care centers, family child care homes, nursery schools and camps. 871-7449.

Children's Museum of Maine offers exhibitions, clubs and activities for kids of all ages. Most events are free with admission. Pre-registration and additional fees required for some programs. At the Children's Museum of Maine, 142 Free St., Portland. Admission: \$5 (\$3 camera obscura/\$6 both/kids under 1 free). 828-1234.

Developmental Screenings Child Development Services of Cumberland County offers screenings and evaluations for kids ages birth-5 who reside in Cumberland County. Initial screening and evaluation is free. If you have concerns about your child's development, please call 878-8611.

Dial-a-Story South Portland Public Library offers recorded stories, folk tales and poems, anytime day or night. 767-8162.

Family Night Greater Portland YMCA holds a night of swim time, movies, games, food and contests every Fri from 6:30-8:45 pm. Cost: \$5 (members free). 874-1111.

Kennebec Girl Scouts Council offers girls ages five and up the opportunity to experience the wild outdoors and give back to their community. For information about the Girl Scouts' outdoor camps and community service programs, call 772-1177 or 800-660-1072.

Kids First USM's Muskie Institute offers a 4-hour workshop for divorcing parents to focus on kids' needs before, during and after divorce. Cost: \$45. Call for location and time. 780-5833.

Maine Audubon Society Gilsland Farm Environmental Center 119 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. Preschool Discovery Time: "Buzzing Bees," stories and activities for preschool-aged kids, followed by a snack, Weds 10-11:30 am. Cost: \$5 (\$4 members) \$3 each additional child (\$2 members). Nature Book Discussion Group second Mon of the month from 7-8:30 pm. 781-2330.

Maine Parents of Gifted/Talented Youth publishes a monthly newsletter about gifted kids and their special academic needs, including a schedule of related events. 767-6121.

Portland Public Library offers programs for kids. Mon: "Preschool Storytime" for kids ages 3-5, at 10:30 am. Wed: "Finger Fun for Babies" at 9:30 am. Fri: "Tales for Twos" at 10:30 am. At the Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., Portland. 871-1707.

Reiche Branch Portland Public Library offers programs for kids and adults. Thurs: Story illustration from 2-4 pm, story time from 6:30-7:30 pm. Fri: "Baby and Toddler Time" at 9:30 am. The third Thurs of each month adults can learn how to use the library at 7 pm. At 166 Brackett St., Portland. Hours: Wed 9 am-6 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm, Fri 9 am-noon. 774-6871.

Reading Programs Scarborough Public Library offers reading programs with activities and free special events for kids ages 2 and up. Sun: "Kindertales" for ages 3-7, at 1:30 pm. Mon: "Toddler Time" for ages 2-3, at 10 am; for ages 3-3 1/2, at 11 am. Tues: "Read to Me" for ages 3 1/2-5, at 10:30 am. At Scarborough Public Library, 48 Gorham Rd., Scarborough. Contact the children's room at 854-4723.

Together Time Play Group The Jewish Community Center hosts a play group for kids and parents on Mon at 57 Ashmont St., Portland, from 9 am-noon. 772-1959.

Walker Memorial Library has story hour for kids of all ages every Tues and Wed, at 10:30 am. Crafts for children ages 5 and up are the second and fourth Sat of every month, at 1:30 pm. At Walker Memorial Library, 800 Main St., Westbrook. 854-0630.

Warren Memorial Library offers weekly programs for kids. Tues: "Books and Babies," for babies 6-24 months and their caregivers, at 9:30 am. Tues: "Tales for Tots," for kids ages 2-3 and their caregivers, at 10:30 am. Tues and Wed: "Lunch-Look-Listen," at 11:30 am. Wed: "Read-aloud Time," for kids ages 3-5, at 10:15 am. Thurs through Aug. 22: "Crafts for Children," for ages 5 and up, at 1:30 pm. Parents welcome. At the Warren Memorial Library, 479 Main St., Westbrook. 854-5891.

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Children's Museum of Maine offers exhibitions, clubs and activities for kids of all ages. Most events are free with admission. Pre-registration and additional fees required for some programs. At the Children's Museum of Maine, 142 Free St., Portland. Admission: \$5 (\$3 camera obscura/\$6 both/kids under 1 free). 828-1234.

Developmental Screenings Child Development Services of Cumberland County offers screenings and evaluations for kids ages birth-5 who reside in Cumberland County. Initial screening and evaluation is free. If you have concerns about your child's development, please call 878-8611.

Dial-a-Story South Portland Public Library offers recorded stories, folk tales and poems, anytime day or night. 767-8162.

Family Night Greater Portland YMCA holds a night of swim time, movies, games, food and contests every Fri from 6:30-8:45 pm. Cost: \$5 (members free). 874-1111.

Kennebec Girl Scouts Council offers girls ages five and up the opportunity to experience the wild outdoors and give back to their community. For information about the Girl Scouts' outdoor camps and community service programs, call 772-1177 or 800-660-1072.

Kids First USM's Muskie Institute offers a 4-hour workshop for divorcing parents to focus on kids' needs before, during and after divorce. Cost: \$45. Call for location and time. 780-5833.

Maine Audubon Society Gilsland Farm Environmental Center 119 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. Preschool Discovery Time: "Buzzing Bees," stories and activities for preschool-aged kids, followed by a snack, Weds 10-11:30 am. Cost: \$5 (\$4 members) \$3 each additional child (\$2 members). Nature Book Discussion Group second Mon of the month from 7-8:30 pm. 781-2330.

Maine Parents of Gifted/Talented Youth publishes a monthly newsletter about gifted kids and their special academic needs, including a schedule of related events. 767-6121.

Portland Public Library offers programs for kids. Mon: "Preschool Storytime" for kids ages 3-5, at 10:30 am. Wed: "Finger Fun for Babies" at 9:30 am. Fri: "Tales for Twos" at 10:30 am. At the Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., Portland. 871-1707.

Reiche Branch Portland Public Library offers programs for kids and adults. Thurs: Story illustration from 2-4 pm, story time from 6:30-7:30 pm. Fri: "Baby and Toddler Time" at 9:30 am. The third Thurs of each month adults can learn how to use the library at 7 pm. At 166 Brackett St., Portland. Hours: Wed 9 am-6 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm, Fri 9 am-noon. 774-6871.

Reading Programs Scarborough Public Library offers reading programs with activities and free special events for kids ages 2 and up. Sun: "Kindertales" for ages 3-7, at 1:30 pm. Mon: "Toddler Time" for ages 2-3, at 10 am; for ages 3-3 1/2, at 11 am. Tues: "Read to Me" for ages 3 1/2-5, at 10:30 am. At Scarborough Public Library, 48 Gorham Rd., Scarborough. Contact the children's room at 854-4723.

Together Time Play Group The Jewish Community Center hosts a play group for kids and parents on Mon at 57 Ashmont St., Portland, from 9 am-noon. 772-1959.

Walker Memorial Library has story hour for kids of all ages every Tues and Wed, at 10:30 am. Crafts for children ages 5 and up are the second and fourth Sat of every month, at 1:30 pm. At Walker Memorial Library, 800 Main St., Westbrook. 854-0630.

Warren Memorial Library offers weekly programs for kids. Tues: "Books and Babies," for babies 6-24 months and their caregivers, at 9:30 am. Tues: "Tales for Tots," for kids ages 2-3 and their caregivers, at 10:30 am. Tues and Wed: "Lunch-Look-Listen," at 11:30 am. Wed: "Read-aloud Time," for kids ages 3-5, at 10:15 am. Thurs through Aug. 22: "Crafts for Children," for ages 5 and up, at 1:30 pm. Parents welcome. At the Warren Memorial Library, 479 Main St., Westbrook. 854-5891.

Beyond Mozart

Klezmer meets classical at the Portland Chamber Music Festival

■ DOUG HUBLEY

Taking its belief in musical integration one step further, the fifth annual Portland Chamber Music Festival not only treats contemporary and classical as equals, but embraces klezmer, too.

Well, more than klezmer: Osvaldo Golijov's "The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind," set to be performed at the festival Aug. 29, is actually something like a spiritual history of the Jewish people.

Thanks to a recording of the piece by the Kronos Quartet and clarinetist David Krakauer, "Isaac" has become a hit, says violinist Jennifer Elowitz, who serves as the event's co-artistic director with pianist Dena Levine.

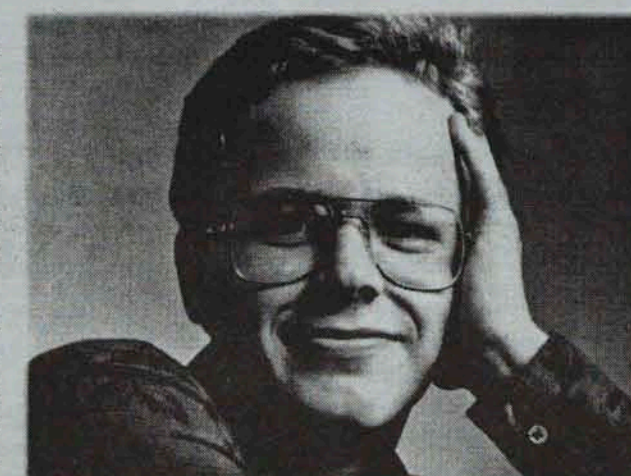
Golijov is one of two Boston-area composers who'll be discussing their work at the festival. The other is David Horne, whose "Shiver" will have its world premiere here on Aug. 21.

Both Golijov and Horne are big names in their obscure field. Golijov, 37, is an Argentinean native who teaches at the College of the Holy Cross and lives in Newton, Mass. Horne, 27, born in Scotland, is a doctoral candidate at Harvard and a concert pianist.

Horne's "Shiver" calls for piano, violin, viola, cello and bass — the same instruments that comprised Schubert's beloved "Trout" quintet. "I basically wanted to write a piece which borders on being so fragile it might break," Horne says. Though the music reaches dynamic heights, "a lot of the piece is almost on the edge of silence. You have these silences which basically flutter in and out of being audible."

While Horne creates new sound environments, Golijov brings a clutch of historical and spiritual ideas to "Isaac," a piece paired at the festival with Schubert's popular quintet Opus 163. "Isaac the Blind was a Kabbalist, a mystical Jewish thinker of the 13th century," Horne says. "All these thinkers were convinced that the Hebrew alphabet held the clues to the universe. And in the same way, I think that composers sometimes just choose a few notes and start playing with them and different things happen, right?"

The three movements at the heart of



David Horne's composition "Shiver" will have its world premiere at the Portland Chamber Music Festival.

PreView

THE PORTLAND CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL RUNS AUG. 21-29. CONCERTS ARE AT LUDCKE AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND'S WESTBROOK COLLEGE CAMPUS, STEVENS AVENUE, AT 7:30 P.M. TIX: \$12 ADULTS (\$8 STUDENTS). OPENING NIGHT: \$5. SERIES SUBSCRIPTION IS \$36 (\$24 STUDENTS). FOR A COMPLETE CONCERT LISTING, SEE PAGE 32. 800-320-0257.

"Isaac" reflect key languages of Jewish history: ancient Aramaic, Yiddish and Hebrew. "The second is the one that people will most closely associate with Jewish music," Golijov says. "It is very sweet and full of smell, if you want, and grace. It has a real klezmer dance that comes twice. It sounds like a Chagall picture, in a way — you have the bride and the groom and the cow, but they are all flying in the air."

The festival is bent on "integrating new music into everyday programming," Elowitz says, "as opposed to keeping it a separate festival, or, like, 'Here's the new music concerts and here's the nice music concerts.'"

A combination of old and new music could be tough sell, but in the past the series has drawn nearly full houses. Nowadays, though,

even the traditional chamber repertoire is drawing fewer Maine listeners. But as with drinking martinis, acquiring the habit is half the battle. "Even in 19th- or 18th-century music, most audiences don't 'understand' it," Horne says. "But because it has a veneer of sound which is more familiar to them, they accept it. The problem with new music is that there's no lingua franca. All new music sounds different [from piece to piece], and some of it is extremely complicated."

The compositions should receive exceptional treatment, since the festival organizers have recruited up-and-coming and skilled musicians from the country's top symphonies and chamber groups.

"What we're going for is actually a really good time," says Elowitz, "as opposed to something you're supposed to like or something that's good for you. Like, 'Eat your vegetables. Go to the chamber music festival.'" CBW

Rolling Rock Rocks Casco Bay

Same as it ever was.



The Best Place

movies

"The Negotiator" promises big and then talks you down until you're left with a fairly standard good cop/bad cop action flick. This is the story of Danny Roman (Samuel L. Jackson), a hostage negotiator for the Chicago Police Department, who is wrongly accused of murder and risks everything to prove his innocence. What could have been a movie about the conflict between peaceful negotiations and violent resolution disintegrates into just another summer shooting movie.

Roman has all the qualities that make silver-screen cops appealing. In addition to being virtuous, he takes risks, disobeys authority figures and is good at his job. But when \$2 million goes missing from the police pension fund and Roman's partner hints he may know something about it, our hero's life changes. The partner turns up dead, and Roman is pinned for the rap.

The protagonist decides the act as good as you did in "The Usual Suspects" or I'll smoke your ass: Samuel L. Jackson (left) interacts badly with Kevin Spacey in "The Negotiator" is to take hostages at gunpoint, one of whom he suspects is involved in the pension theft and death of his partner. Suddenly, Roman becomes the negotiator, and this role reversal is meant to drive the plot. His colleagues are split into two camps. One group feels uncomfortable with the prospect of gunning against their buddy. The other believes he's guilty and wants revenge for their murdered friend and stolen retirement funds.

To keep the trigger-happy cops at bay, the police brass bring in a new hostage negotiator, Chris Sabian (Kevin Spacey). Though the conflict between Sabian and Roman should be the height of the story,

"The Negotiator," directed by F. Gary Gray. Rated R. At Hoyts Falmouth 10, 206 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth, 781-5616 and Maine Mall Cinema, Maine Mall Road, South Portland, 774-1022.

the two share little chemistry, and the face-off falls flat. The script is also to blame, since Jackson's character displays none of the flair that's made the actor so popular. Spacey is confined to a lackluster part made worse by his character's late entrance and thinly developed personality. "The Negotiator" takes what could have been a blockbuster cast and fritters it away.



Act as good as you did in "The Usual Suspects" or I'll smoke your ass: Samuel L. Jackson (left) interacts badly with Kevin Spacey in "The Negotiator"

The plot is thick enough to chew on for a while, and there is enough blatant gun-waving to satisfy most action fans. It's no coincidence that aside from being a great bargainer with kidnappers and murderers, Roman is an expert marksman and demolitions man. Of course, a Hollywood summer movie could not be simply about negotiations. Contrary to its title, this film is about what happens when the talking stops and the violence begins. After all, who wants to spend seven bucks to watch a hero ducking fights?

ALLEN BALDWIN

now playing

NEW THIS WEEK

AIR BUD: GOLDEN RECEIVER The remarkably athletic dog — with a personality more congenial than most pro athletes — returns, this time as a football star. What didn't he already conquer this territory? **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

THE AVENGERS Ralph Fiennes does the bowler hat of unflappable secret agent John Steed in this big-screen adaptation of the hit '60s TV show. Steed and his curvaceous sidekick Emma Peel (Uma Thurman) must battle (what else?) an evil weather manipulator (Sean Connery). **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

DEJA VU In a cafe in Tel Aviv, an American woman and a French woman meet. The French woman — who may be a ghost — tells a story of lost love related to the antique pin she is wearing. When she leaves the pin behind, the American woman begins a quest to return it. Along the way, she encounters a handsome English painter she's certain she's met before. With Victoria Foster and Stephen Dillane. **The Movies**

THE BUTCHER BOY Neil Jordan ("The Crying Game") directed this picture about a 12-year-old Irish boy struggling to cope with his father's alcoholism, his mother's madness and the vicious cruelty of a neighbor. Gradually, he loses everything but his job at a slaughterhouse — leaving his own mental health at stake. What else explains Sinead O'Connor appearing as the Virgin Mother? With Camron Owens and Stephen Rea. **The Movies**

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK Accustomed to putting her career before her happiness, a single mom and stockbroker (Angela Bassett) is finally persuaded to take a vacation to Jamaica with her best friend (Whoopi Goldberg). Once there, she has a steamy tête-à-tête with a native beachside hunk, an encounter that does for her spirit what the oil can do for the Top Man. When it comes time to leave her tropical paradise, she must decide whether to take her youthful soul-mate home. **Maine Mall Cinema**

RETURN TO PARADISE After an American college student is imprisoned in Malaysia on drug charges, his friends have two options: serve jail time with him — or let him be executed. With Anne Hecht. **Hoyts Clark's Pond**

ALSO SHOWING

ARMAGEDDON The TV ads have been playing this as an off-center and gentlemanly action flick, like "The Right Stuff" with opposing 20-somethings. But we know better. It's big rock 'n' roll, small planet, pure waste. Besides, who wants to see Bruce Willis' cartoon hercules,

in the middle of a love story? Now that would be a disaster film. With Liv Ullmann and Ben Affleck. Reviewed 7/23/98. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

BASKETBALL And you're probably thinking it's a typo. Written by and starring "South Park" creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone, "BaskinBalls" is the story of two friends whose homemade sport — a combination of basketball and basketball — becomes the new national obsession. **Nickelodeon**

THE AVENGERS Ralph Fiennes does the bowler hat of unflappable secret agent John Steed in this big-screen adaptation of the hit '60s TV show. Steed and his curvaceous sidekick Emma Peel (Uma Thurman) must battle (what else?) an evil weather manipulator (Sean Connery). **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

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ing romance anyone any way than. The late Lloyd Bridges stars as a Mafia kingpin in this spoof of gangster films. With Jay Mohr and Christina Applegate. **Keystone Theatre Cafe**

LETAL WEAPON 4 More gratuitous character and basketball — becomes the new national obsession. **Nickelodeon**

THE AVENGERS Ralph Fiennes does the bowler hat of unflappable secret agent John Steed in this big-screen adaptation of the hit '60s TV show. Steed and his curvaceous sidekick Emma Peel (Uma Thurman) must battle (what else?) an evil weather manipulator (Sean Connery). **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

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the troops who must perform the mission remain unconvinced it's worthwhile. With Tom Hanks and Matt Damon. Reviewed 7/8/98. **Hoyts Clark's Pond, Hoyts Falmouth 10**

SMALL SOLDIERS When toy soldiers are accidentally programmed with a military intelligence chip, all hell breaks loose in a peaceful suburb. With Phil Hartman. Reviewed 7/16/98. **Nickelodeon**

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times starting friday

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AUG 14-20. Owing to scheduling changes after *CBW* goes to press, moviegoers are advised to confirm times with theaters.

HOYTS CLARK'S POND, 333 CLARK'S POND RD., SOUTH PORTLAND, 879-1511.

THE AVENGERS (PG-13)
11:50, 2:40, 7:20, 9:45
RETURN TO PARADISE (R)
12:30, 3:40, 7, 9:55
THE NEGOTIATOR (PG)
2:10, 7:10
HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
12, 2:20, 3:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:20, 9:50
EVER AFTER: A CINDERELLA STORY (PG-13)
12:20, 3:20, 6:50, 9:30
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
11:30, 3, 4:20, 6:30, 8, 10
LETAL WEAPON 4 (R)
12:10, 6:40
DR. DOUTILE (PG-13)
11:40, 1:50

HOYTS FALMOUTH 10, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH, 781-5616.
THE AVENGERS (PG-13)
12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 7, 9:10
SNARE EYES (R)
1, 4:10, 7:20, 9:55
HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
12:40, 2:15, 4:40, 7:30, 9:40
PARENT TRAP (PG)
12:25, 3:20, 6:50, 9:35
THE NEGOTIATOR (R)
6:40, 9:30
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
FR-SAT 11:30, 3, 6:30, 10
MON-THURS 12:15, 4, 7:45
EVER AFTER: A CINDERELLA STORY (PG-13)
12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 9:45
THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG-13)
12:05, 3:30, 6:55, 9:25
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
12:50, 3:50, 7:10, 9:50
ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)
12, 3:10, 6:35, 9:55

ATTENTIVE, ATTRACTIVE, TALL SWF, 40, educated, athletic, romantic. Seeks handsome SM, for fun, companionship and love. #55343

KEYSTONE THEATRE CAFE, 504 CONGRESS ST., PORTLAND, 871-5500.
THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)
4:30, 7, 9:30
THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (R)
4, 6:30, 9

JANE AUSTEN'S MAFIA! (PG-13)
3:30, 6:30
DISTURBING BEHAVIOR (R)
8:30

MAINE MALL CINEMA, MAINE MALL ROAD, SOUTH PORTLAND, 774-1022.
AIR BUD: GOLDEN RECEIVER (G)
12:40, 2:50, 5, 7:10
HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (R)
1, 3:55, 7, 9:50

FLY AWAY HOME (PG)
1:15, 3:50, 7:30, 9:45
PARENT TRAP (PG)
1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05
THE NEGOTIATOR (R)
3:10, 7, 10

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:25, 9:55
MADLINE (PG)
1

ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)
12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:05

THE MOVIES, 10 EXCHANGE ST., PORTLAND, 772-9600.
HENRY FOOL (R)
AUG 14-18-FRI-TUES 4:30, 7, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 2

DEJA VU (PG-13)
AUG 14-18-FRI-TUES 4:30, 7, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 2

THE BUTCHER BOY (R)
AUG 19-25 WED-TUES 5:15, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 1

NICKELODEON, TEMPLE AND MIDDLE STREETS, PORTLAND, 772-9751.
A PERFECT MURDER (R)
1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30

DISTURBING BEHAVIOR (R)
12:10, 4:10, 7, 9:30
BASKETBALL (R)
9:20

SMALL SOLDIERS (PG-13)
1:10, 3:50, 6:50
THE X-FILES (PG-13)
12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9

THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG-13)
12:30, 4, 8
TITANIC (PG-13)
12:30, 4:20, 8:10

PRIDE'S CORNER DRIVE-IN, 651 BRIDGTON RD., WESTBROOK, 797-3154.
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
8:10
HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
10:20

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THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:25, 9:55
MADLINE (PG)
1

ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)
12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:05

THE MOVIES, 10 EXCHANGE ST., PORTLAND, 772-9600.
HENRY FOOL (R)
AUG 14-18-FRI-TUES 4:30, 7, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 2

DEJA VU (PG-13)
AUG 14-18-FRI-TUES 4:30, 7, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 2

THE BUTCHER BOY (R)
AUG 19-25 WED-TUES 5:15, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 1

NICKELODEON, TEMPLE AND MIDDLE STREETS, PORTLAND, 772-9751.
A PERFECT MURDER (R)
1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30

DISTURBING BEHAVIOR (R)
12:10, 4:10, 7, 9:30
BASKETBALL (R)
9:20

SMALL SOLDIERS (PG-13)
1:10, 3:50, 6:50
THE X-FILES (PG-13)
12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9

THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG-13)
12:30, 4, 8
TITANIC (PG-13)
12:30, 4:20, 8:10

PRIDE'S CORNER DRIVE-IN, 651 BRIDGTON RD., WESTBROOK, 797-3154.
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
8:10
HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
10:20

HOYTS FALMOUTH 10, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH, 781-5616.
THE AVENGERS (PG-13)
12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 7, 9:10
SNARE EYES (R)
1, 4:10, 7:20, 9:55
HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
12:40, 2:15, 4:40, 7:30, 9:40
PARENT TRAP (PG)
12:25, 3:20, 6:50, 9:35
THE NEGOTIATOR (R)
6:40, 9:30
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
FR-SAT 11:30, 3, 6:30, 10
MON-THURS 12:15, 4, 7:45
EVER AFTER: A CINDERELLA STORY (PG-13)
12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 9:45
THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG-13)
12:05, 3:30, 6:55, 9:25
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
12:50, 3:50, 7:10, 9:50
ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)
12, 3:10, 6:35, 9:55

ATTENTIVE, ATTRACTIVE, TALL SWF, 40, educated, athletic, romantic. Seeks handsome SM, for fun, companionship and love. #55343

KEYSTONE THEATRE CAFE, 504 CONGRESS ST., PORTLAND, 871-5500.
THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)
4:30, 7, 9:30
THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (R)
4, 6:30, 9

JANE AUSTEN'S MAFIA! (PG-13)
3:30, 6:30
DISTURBING BEHAVIOR (R)
8:30

MAINE MALL CINEMA, MAINE MALL ROAD, SOUTH PORTLAND, 774-1022.
AIR BUD: GOLDEN RECEIVER (G)
12:40, 2:50, 5, 7:10
HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (R)
1, 3:55, 7, 9:50

FLY AWAY HOME (PG)
1:15, 3:50, 7:30, 9:45
PARENT TRAP (PG)
1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05
THE NEGOTIATOR (R)
3:10, 7, 10

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:25, 9:55
MADLINE (PG)
1

ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)
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THE BUTCHER BOY (R)
AUG 19-25 WED-TUES 5:15, 9:30-SAT-SUN MAT 1

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PRACTICING NURSE available. 15 years experience with Alzheimers. Rates negotiable. 895-1034.

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2BDR APARTMENT, H/W floors, front and back porch, off-street parking. \$300/mo. + utils. 771-0297.

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EASTERN PROM large 2BDR, ocean views, laundry, deck; seek mature, responsible M/F. \$350/mo. + 1/2 util. Sec./Refs. 791-8910 Lv. Mess.

FEMALE ROOMMATE APARTMENT HUNTER WANTED! Cheerful teacher in her 40's looking for roommate and place to share in Greater Portland area for October/November 1st. Non-smoker. No dogs. Call 761-9438.

HOUSE TO SHARE. Less than 1 mile from North Gate Shopping Center. 4BDR. 3 bath with large kitchen/dining room. Includes: Lg deck and backyard, cable TV/phone in bedroom, 2 car garage, (off street parking) washer/dryer, all utilities. \$400/mo. Great neighborhood. Call 797-7653, available Sept. 1st. professional, non-smoker.

PORTLAND-LARGE, BEAUTIFUL 3BDR. H/W floors, parking. Near Grant and State. Looking for M/F, N/S, professional or grad./older student to share with quiet, PhD, professional man. \$350/mo. + 1/2 utils. Call Will, 871-0255.

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WEST END: Looking for open-minded, social & responsible night owl to share 2BDR. \$287.50/mo. H/W/H. included. Avail. 9/1. 773-2782.

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APTS/RENT

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PORTLAND: VERY LARGE 1 BEDROOM basement apartment with workshop, laundry, 600/month, pets OK. Very quiet. Contact 828-8014.

STATE STREET 591 and 2 bedroom, some with either great views of the harbour, balcony, or separate dining room. Heated, elevator, oak floor, modern kitchen and bath. In a restored 1920 vintage building. Start \$475. 773-1814.

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ARTIST STUDIOS FOR RENT. Secure building near LL Bean on Congress St. 6 month lease. Call Manly Frames at 828-0031.

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MATURE Male seeking 1BDR or 2BDR apartment/condo preferably West End, Portland location for Sept. 1998 occupancy. Quiet N/S building, off-street parking, excellent references. Call 773-0065.

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16 WIDES ARE HERE, and we have the best, 80'x16' with 3BDR, 2 baths. Master bath has a huge corner tub, big, big, walk-in, shower, island kitchen to double your counter space, nice oak cabinets and deluxe trim throughout. It's big and you'll like it. This week \$36,995 or \$1,800 down \$60 at \$335. Apr 11th. Daily 10 to 7, Sun. 10 to 5. Camelot Home Center, Rt.2, (Exit 20 off Rt. 93), Tilton, NH or Rt. 18 North, Littleton, NH, or Rt. 202, Auburn, ME or Rt. 1A, Holden, ME.

5 BEDROOMS BUILT by Castle. OVER 2,000 sq. ft., with fireplace, whirlpool, dishwasher, paddle fans, skylights, patio door, stove, ref, delux carpeting, drapes all windows, and 1 1/2 baths, living, family, dining, and utility rooms too. cheaper than you expect. Daily 10 to 7, Sun. 10 to 5. Camelot Home Center, Rt.2, (Exit 20 off Rt. 93), Tilton, NH or Rt. 18 North, Littleton, NH, or Rt. 202, Auburn, ME or Rt. 1A, Holden, ME.

CASTLE Palace 43, 44x28, 3BDR, 2 baths, 39,995, YES they are cheaper double wides BUT none are as good a value as this one. Come in a see why. Rt. 1A, Holden, ME.

FLEETWOOD 4 BEDROOM \$24,995, NEW, or \$1,300 down \$217.00 for 360 Apr 10.5%. Camelot Home Center, Rt. 18 North, Littleton, NH.

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MODULARS ARE BETTER BUILT and will save you money and time. Display home is a Gorgeous cape 25x44 with a 2' set back, downers, full appliance pack. Ceramic tile entrance, patio door. Oak molding throughout and priced under 60. Display home is ONLY open from 10 to 5, Fri., Sat., and Sunday. Call Mark at (603)286-4071, Camelot MODULARS Rt. 3, Tilton, NH.

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SUNKEN LIVING ROOM, sunken master bedroom. Have you ever seen one? Even has a sunken whirlpool tub, stacked stone fireplace, ceramic tile, dishwasher, vaulted ceilings. 3BDR, 2 baths. Only one in New England! Camelot Home Center Rt. 3, (Exit 20 off Rt. 93) Tilton, NH.

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REAL ASTROLOGY

By Rob Brezany

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): The poet Muriel Rukeyser said the universe is composed of stories, not atoms. The physicist Werner Heisenberg declared that the universe is made of music, not matter. And I believe that if you habitually expose yourself to inferior music and stories—even unwittingly—you could wind up living in the wrong universe. I bring this up now because it's never been more important for you to nourish yourself with righteous tales and tunes. Whether it's Jorge Luis Borges' *Labyrinths* and the devotional singing of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, or Jane Hirshfield's *Women in Prayer* and the Sacred and Jane Siberry's *When I Was a Boy*, seek out only the best possible building materials.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Saturn slipped into Taurus back on June 9. It'll remain there through October 25. Then it'll leave your sign until early March, 1999, when it'll return for a 25-month stay. Already you should be feeling a foreboding of the ringed planet's gifts—and costs. Frivolous ambitions may be losing their hold on your imagination. You could be feeling a light but unmistakable push to stop messing around with time-wasting activities. My advice is to respond with grateful enthusiasm to the mentor god Saturn's pressure—now. The sooner you hone your self-discipline and tighten your focus, the less likely it is that you'll spend the year 2000 writing "I will not squander my riches" a billion times on Saturn's blackboard.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Logic and analytical thought are, I hope, among your most prized possessions. In a culture where nearly all opinions are lazily conceived, informed by poor research, and driven by unacknowledged emotional biases, analytical and objective mind is a superpower. Now and then, however, even that isn't enough to guide you; you need to rely on your intuition. In many people, unfortunately, this subtle faculty has atrophied through neglect and lack of respect. Luckily, though, it's always ready to grow stronger in response to loving attention. And that's exactly what I suggest you focus on in the coming weeks, dear Gemini.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): I wouldn't be surprised to see you wearing a beaded cocktail dress and white sweatsocks at the same time this week, or a baseball hat with a tuxedo. For that matter, I can easily imagine you making killings in the marketplace by day and healings in the bedroom by night. The metaphors will be so mixed (often for the best) that you're more likely to change uniforms or playpuses, not horses, in mid-stream. It'll be a perfect time to master the art of cooperation—the curious blend of cooperation and competition.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): For a couple days, five planets will be crammed into Leo. If there were no other astrological factors to consider, I'd predict that this mass gathering would either turn you into an incoherently vain show-off or else a healing source of resplendent beauty. But since a solar eclipse will also grace your sign, and Mars in Leo will be in opposition to Neptune (the planet of unconditional love), I'm quite sure you won't be able to get away with embodying the dark side of the cosmic confluence. Therefore, I say unto you: Be a generous angel overflowing with benevolence—or else.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): Psychotherapists everywhere seem to favor the last two weeks of August for their vacation time. According to my sources, for instance, upwards of 75 percent of New York's shrinkers have currently deserted the city for the Hamptons or the Cape. Fortunately for you, Virgo, exuberant comic forces are yanking you out of your doldrums just in time for this mass exodus. You don't need no stinking gurus this week. All you require is a place to celebrate your release from the suburbs of hell.

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LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): How could you possibly top your recent feats, Libra? By being well-balanced without indulging in indecisiveness, you've at least temporarily mastered one of the toughest challenges your sign faces. And that ain't all. You've managed to express record-breaking amounts of receptivity and sensitivity while at the same time maintaining an iron will. Forgive me for waxing melodramatic here, but I believe you've come closer than ever to actually doing what God sent you here to do. It seems to be the perfect moment, then, to offer you the cautionary advice of Nigerian writer Gabriel Okara. "[O]ne of the two hard things," he said, "is knowing your purpose in this world. The other, which is harder, is not to corrupt it after knowing what your purpose is."

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): I'm happy to say you're now behaving in a way that's diametrically opposed to the Renaissance popes who sired children with mistresses and to the American founding fathers who owned slaves even though they declared slavery was immoral. In other words, Scorpio, you're walking your talk; you're practicing what you've preached; your head and heart are united in a sweeping conspiracy to become the genuine article you always said you wanted to be. Congratulations, O Pure One. You're the antidote for the weller of posers and con artists out there. Of all the signs in the zodiac, your hypocrisy levels are the lowest.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): According to tradition, God is not up above and far away, but rather inside you and as close as your breath. One good way to seek communion with the Divine Now, therefore, is to sit quietly with your eyes closed in a sheltered sanctuary. Curiously, an equally viable approach is to stand on top of a mountain with all of creation spread out before you and open yourself up as wide as you'll go. I think either method will work quite well for you this week, Sagittarius. The stars are plotting to give you a more intimate yet expansive view of your soul's destiny that you've had in your last three incarnations.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): A Capricorn reader, weary of what he called my endless mixed messages, recently wrote me a rather bratty plea. "When will I become," he moaned, "the most secure, attractive, intelligent, humorous, wealthy, influential, happy person in the history of the world—and of course also be paired with a gorgeous, witty, smart, financially-secure mate?" As much as I may be peeved with the greed oozing from such a question, it's my duty to report that the answer is: this week. Well, except for the "in the history of the world" part. Substitute "in the history of my life," and many of you Capricorns are quite likely to fit the description.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): My friend Irene is a matchmaker. Her specialty is helping single people dream up their ideal marriage contracts. She finds that this often clarifies their notions of what they want in a mate, and leads, in mysterious ways, to them actually meeting their mates. Interested? You should be. The Aquarian urge to merge is now beginning to peak, and it would be good medicine for you to design your own personalized wedding ritual and vows. Even if you're already mated, you and your partner could use this as a good excuse to reinvent your bond.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Where exactly is Hell in relation to Heaven, anyway? Is it, like, the equivalent of a billion light years away? Or are they located within shouting distance of each other? Lots of ancient religious texts suggest the latter. Yajur Kohleth, a Jewish commentary on the Biblical book Ecclesiastes, claimed the two domains were just "a hand-breadth apart." In Greek myth, the gorgeous and blessed Elysian Fields were situated right next door to Hades. I bring this up, Pisces, because I believe you'll soon be able to add your testimony to the evidence. In a blink of your crying eyes, you'll migrate from the Dank Pit to the Sweet Spot.

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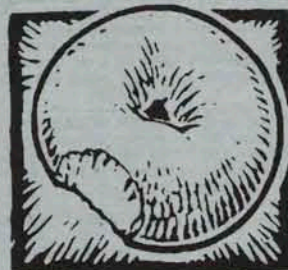
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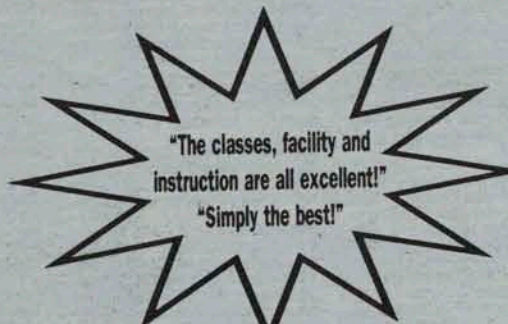


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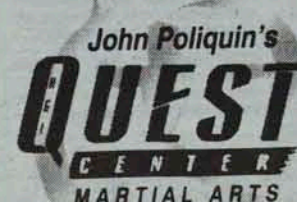
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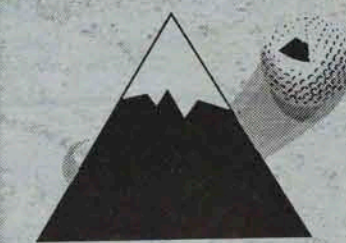
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